പ്രസിഡെണ്ട്.— അവിടെ റോഡുണ്ടാക്കി നന്നാക്കുന്ന കാര്യം ഇപ്പോഴെങ്കിലും സർക്കാരിന്റെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതു തന്നെ വലിയ കാര്യമാണ്. ഫണ്ടു് ഇല്ലെന്നു പറഞ്ഞു് ആ കാര്യം തിരെ ഉപേക്ഷിച്ചിട്ടില്ലല്ലൊ.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—So few questions are tabled, and so we are able to finish off in ten minutes.

President.—This time we did not get many questions. Probably the questions are exhausted.

Dr. A. R. Menon.— It is not so. Questions are not answered. I sent a number of questions three months ago to find out the real state of affairs of the Government. All those questions were simply suppressed, simply kept aside. All these questions are questions of grave public importance. Then, I thought it is a waste of time to send questions. I ceased to send questions from that day onwards.

President.—I do not know whether you would stick to that.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I kept quiet from that day.

President.—Before we begin with the Demands for Government Grants under the head "Land Revenue," I wish to give expression to my satisfaction that it is a great pleasure for me to observe that we have cleared our arrears, and we start with a clean slate. In this connection, I must compliment the Deputy President for his quickness in the disposal of Council business.

Voting of Demands for Grants (cont.)

Demand No. 1—Land Revenue—Rs. 1,91,321.

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—Sir, I beg leave to move for a grant of Rs. 1,91,321 under "I—Land Revenue" for the year 1103 out of the total allotment of Rs. 2,25,100. In doing so, I have to say very little by way of explanation, for my application is confined to the irreducible minimum requirements of the department. Moreover, the Land Revenue Department is not one of what, in political parlance, is known as a 'spending department.'

The budget estimate for 1103 falls short of the revised estimate for 1102 by Rs. 11,700. This difference is due to the increased provision made in the current year for the purchase of a motor boat for the Fishery Patrol staff and for temporary establishment in connection with a Survey School, the renewal of Sirkar Oodupulli holdings in Travancore and for the verification of State boundaries. There is only a small provision of Rs. 121 under 'temporary establishments' for 1103. This represents the pay for Karkadagam 1102 of the establishment engaged in the renewal of Oodupulli holdings.

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The other items are, almost all of them, a close repetition of those of previous years. I shall briefly explain the slight variation under some of the heads in order to appraise the House of their necessity.

The increase of Rs. 24 under 'Diwan Peishkar's Office Establishment' is on account of the increment due to the office Manager, record-keeper and typist. The decrease of Rs. 787 under 'establishment of Tahsildars and the Superintendent of Survey and Land Records' is due to the additional provision made during the year for the grant of leave allowance to the clerks, Revenue Inspectors, etc.

The decrease of Rs. 1,672 under 'Village Establishments' is due to additional provision found necessary during the current year for payment of leave allowance to the subordinates.

The increase of Rs. 2,000 under 'Miscellaneous' represents the cost of a coin-counting machine proposed to be purchased for the use of the Cochin-Kanayannur Treasury. My friend, the Finance Member, has referred to this item in his Memorandum explaining the budget.

President.—Dr. A. R. Menon, have you the note ready?

Dr. A. G Menon.—We are not ready, Sir. Unfortunately, last Saturday many of our party men left the place. Now, we are just preparing our notes.

President.—So I may go on in the usual order.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 8,628 for 'Diwan Peishkar's Office establishment' by Rs. 100.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sir, in order to enable the House to dispose of the business quickly, I shall just state my points and sit down.

I have tabled this cut for the purpose of ascertaining how recruitments have been made this year in 1102 since the budget session, and would like to know how many posts were thrown open to the non-represented classes in the State in that department. I wish to know from the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Department how representation has been made from the various classes. I am not referring to the existing men, but I want to know how the appointments have been distributed during the year. That it has been fairly well distributed the Hon'ble Member said in his own explanation, and I shall be glad to have a statement just to see whether in giving public posts the representation of unrepresented classes is kept in view, i. e., to see whether the loaves and fishes of the Government are equally distributed among all classes who pay revenue to Government.

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And I also want to know, Sir, how much land is available in each taluk for assignment. This question has been answered partially—'nothing assignable unless deforestation takes place.' You even say that you have no objection to show preference to these classes. You say you have absolutely no objection, and if so, I have tabled three cut motions for the purpose of drawing your attention to treat equally our less advanced brethren, I mean Tiyyas, Pulayas, etc., and the other classes in the State. That is all my object, Sir.

President.—I suppose, as Mr. Salem says, loaves and fishes have been distributed in taking into the department clerks, etc., as laid down in the Standing Orders.

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—Yes, Sir.

President.—I suppose you could give some details regarding this.

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—Yes.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—You could furnish all the information?

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—Yes. There was a vacancy in my office, and several graduates applied for it. There was among them an Ezhuva graduate, and preference was given to the said graduate. Then in regard to the 13 other appointments in the office for clerks' posts, 6 were given to caste Hindus, 4 to non-caste Hindus and 3 to Christians. Of the 38 appointments of Village Officers, 20 were given to caste Hindus, 10 to Christians, 7 to non-caste Hindus and the remaining one to a Mussalman. I think the figures will show we are giving adequate representation to all sections.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I beg to withdraw the motion, Sir.

Motion No. 2.

Mr. K. P. Karuppan.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 52,547 for 'Tahsildar's establishment' by Rs. 1,764.*

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി കരുപ്പൻ.—സർ, ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നതിന്റെ ഉദ്ദേശം, ഫിഷറി ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടു് കുറെക്കൂടി നല്ലവണ്ണം പരിഷ്കരിച്ചു, ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിൽനിന്നും നേരിട്ടു നടത്തേണ്ട ചുമതലയെപ്പറ്റി പ്രബോധനം ചെയ്യുന്നതിനാകുന്നു.

ഇപ്പോൾ അങ്ങിനെ ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടുതന്നെയില്ല. ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട റെവന്യു മെമ്പറുടെ കീഴിൽ നടത്തിവരുന്ന പെട്രോൾ സ്റ്റാഫ് അനുയായമായ മത്സ്യബന്ധത്തെ തടയുന്നതിനും പ്രസ്തുത തൊഴിലാളുടെ പക്കൽനിന്നു് നികുതിയും ആദായങ്ങളും സ്വീകരിക്കുന്നതിനും മാത്രമെ ഉപകരിക്കുന്നുള്ളു.

ഇതു് ഇങ്ങിനെ ഉപേക്ഷയിൽ വിട്ടുകളയേണ്ട ഒരു വ്യവസായമല്ല. വ്യവസായംകൊണ്ടല്ലാതെ ഒരു രാജ്യത്തിനും ഉല്കൃഷ്ടമു

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ണ്ടാകുന്നതല്ലെന്നു് ഞാൻ പറയെണമെന്നില്ലല്ലൊ. ലോകത്തിൽ വച്ചു് ബൽജിയത്തെ കഴിഞ്ഞാൽ ഈ വ്യവസായത്തിനു പറ്റിയ സ്ഥലം കൊച്ചിയെപ്പോലെ മറെറങ്ങുമില്ലെന്നാണു് വിദഗ്ധന്മാരുടെ അഭിപ്രായം.

കടൽക്കൃഷി.

കൊട്ടങ്ങല്ലൂർ മുതൽ ചെല്ലാനംവരെ ഒറ മൈൽ നീണ്ടുകിടക്കുന്ന കടല്ലൂര കൊച്ചി സംസ്ഥാനം വകയാകുന്നു. കടല്ലൂരയിൽ നിന്നും മൂന്നു മൈൽ ദൂരമുള്ള കടലിന്റെ അധികാരം നിയമപ്രകാരം രാജ്യഭാരം ചെയ്യുന്ന മഹാരാജാവിൽ ലയിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. അപ്പോൾ നമുക്കു ഏ ഒ ചതുരശ്രമൈൽ വ്യസ്താരമുള്ള കടൽ കിടപ്പുണ്ടു്. ടികടലിൽ ജോലിചെയ്യുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് നമ്മുടെ നാട്ടിലെ മത്സ്യത്തൊഴിൽകാക്കു് വല്ല ഗുണവും ഉണ്ടാകുന്നുണ്ടൊ, ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിലേക്കു് അവിടെനിന്നും വല്ല വരുമാനങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടാകുവാൻ വഴിയുണ്ടൊ, എന്നൊന്നും നമ്മുടെ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് തിരിഞ്ഞു നോക്കുകപോലും ചെയ്തിട്ടില്ല.

മത്സ്യങ്ങൾ മാത്രമല്ല, മുത്തുശിപ്പി, കൽപുറവു്, ശംഖു്, ഇത്തിൾ മുതലായ സമുദ്രോല്പന്നങ്ങളും മുത്തുരത്നങ്ങൾ പോലും അവിടെയുണ്ടാകും. തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് ഇക്കൊല്ലം മുത്തുകളുള്ള സമുദ്രഗർഭങ്ങളെ പരിശോധിക്കുന്നതിനു് ഒരു തുക അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്.

താഴെ പറയുന്ന സംഗതികൾക്കു് ഇവിടെ ഫിഷറി ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടു് ആവശ്യമായിരിക്കുന്നു.

ക. പുറമ്പോക്കുകളിൽ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനുള്ള അധികാരത്തെ സംരക്ഷിക്കുന്നതിനു്.

ഖ. ശാസ്ത്രീയ പരീക്ഷണങ്ങൾ പൂർത്തീകരിക്കുവാൻ.

ഗ. കച്ചവടത്തിനു് അഭിവൃദ്ധിയുണ്ടാക്കുവാൻ.

ഘ. മത്സ്യബന്ധ ഉപകരണങ്ങളേയും സമ്പ്രദായങ്ങളേയും പരിഷ്കരിക്കുവാൻ.

ങ. കൃഷിക്കും കൃഷിവേലക്കാക്കും സഹായമായിരിക്കുവാൻ

പ്രത്യക്ഷത്തിൽ വളരെ ആദായമുള്ളതാണു് ഈ തൊഴിൽ. ഇതിൽ ഏർപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നവർ അത്രമേൽ സാധുക്കളായതുകൊണ്ടാകുന്ന ഈ വ്യവസായത്തിനും വ്യവസായികൾക്കും ഗുണം ഉണ്ടാകാത്തതു്. അതാണു് അവരുടെ കാര്യത്തിൽ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് ശ്രദ്ധപതിക്കേണമെന്നു നിവേദിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിന്റെ ഉദ്ദേശം. പോരെങ്കിൽ നികുതി പിരിവു ഈ അപേക്ഷയെ അസ്ഥാനത്തിലാക്കുന്നതുമില്ല.

പരിഷ്കൃതഗവമ്മെണ്ടുകളെല്ലാം ഇന്നും ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിനെ നേരിട്ടു ഭരിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുപോവുകയുകുന്നു ചെയ്യുന്നതു്.

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ഗ്രേറ്റ് ബ്രിട്ടൻ, ഐക്യസംസ്ഥാനം (The United States) ജർമ്മനി, ജപ്പാൻ തുടങ്ങിയ പല ഗവമ്മെണ്ടുകളും ഇതിൽ ദൃഷ്ടി പതിച്ചുവരുന്നു. എന്തിനു വളരെ അകലെ പോകുന്നു? നമ്മുടെ തെക്കും വടക്കുമുള്ള ഗവമ്മെണ്ടുകളും ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടു പ്രത്യേകം നടത്തുകയാണല്ലൊ. തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ പ്രസ്തുത ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടിനെപ്പറ്റിയുള്ള അഡ്മിനിസ്ട്രേഷൻ റിപ്പോർട്ട് എന്റെ കയ്യിലിരിക്കുന്നു. അവിടെ മത്സ്യബന്ധനക്കാർക്ക് ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു ചെയ്യുന്ന ഉദാഹരണത്തിനു് ചില ഭാഗങ്ങളെങ്കിലും ഇതിൽ നിന്നും ഉദാഹരിക്കുവാൻ സമയമില്ലാതെ പോവുന്നതിൽ ഞാൻ വ്യസനിക്കുന്നു. ബ്രിട്ടീഷ് മലബാറിലും അതുതന്നെ നയം. അതൊന്നും പോരാഞ്ഞിട്ടു് അവിടെ ഒരു കമ്മിറ്റി ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയിരിക്കുന്നതായി കാണുന്നു. ഫെബ്രുവരി ഫസ്റ്റ്-ാംനു- ബുധനാഴ്ചയിലെ ഡെയിലി എക്സ്പ്രസ്സിൽ നിന്നറിയുന്നതു് ഒരു ഫിഷറി അഡൈസറി കമ്മിറ്റിയെക്കുറിച്ചാണു്? ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മദ്രാസ് ഗവണ്മെന്റർ അവർകളും ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയ പ്രസ്തുത കമ്മിറ്റിയിലെ മെമ്പർമാർ ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ദിവാൻ ബഹദൂർ ആർ. എൻ. ആരോഗ്യസ്വാമി മുതലിയാർ (Minister for Public Health as President) ദിവാൻ ബഹദൂർ എം. കൃഷ്ണൻനായർ, എം. എൽ. സി., മെസേഴ്സ് രാമചന്ദ്ര റെഡ്ഡി, എം. എൽ. സി, മുതലായവരാകുന്നു.

അതുകൊണ്ടു് നമ്മുടെ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടും ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടു പരിഷ്കരിക്കണം. പാവപ്പെട്ട തൊഴിലാളികളെ ഉന്നമിപ്പിക്കണം. ഇതൊക്കെയാകുന്നു എനിക്കു നിവേദിപ്പിക്കുവാനുള്ളതു്. ഇതിനും വാശ്രത്തപ്രകാരമുള്ള മറുകായ്ങ്ങൾക്കും തന്നാണ്ടിലെ അടങ്ങലിൽ വകകൊള്ളിക്കാത്തതിനെപ്പറ്റി എനിക്കു വേണമെങ്കിൽ പലതും പറയുവാനുണ്ടു്. എന്നാൽ റൊമ്പ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടിൽ ഇപ്പോൾ ഞാൻ കാണുന്ന രംഗത്തെ ലക്ഷ്യമാക്കി വാക്കുരങ്ങൾ അയക്കുവാൻ എനിക്കു് ആവശ്യമുള്ളതായി തോന്നുന്നില്ല. ഏതായാലും ഒരുകായ്യം ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു ദയവായി ഓർക്കണം. ഈ വ്യവസായത്തിൽ 'എ' എന്നൊ 'ബി' എന്നൊ മാത്രമെ നമ്മൾ പഠിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളു. ഇനി, ഇതിൽ നമുക്കു് 'ഇസഡ്' വരെ പഠിക്കുവാനുണ്ടു്.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I have also tabled a motion under this head, and I wish to say a few words in the matter. So I shall speak what I have to say on this motion, and then withdraw my motion.

I shall require only 5 minutes, that is, 2 minutes more than what is allowed.

I have tabled this motion to know whether they have forwarded any proposals regarding the improvement of the

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economic condition of theValans to the Economic Development Board; if so, what they are, and what has been done in the matter, as he has promised in this House last year. I also want to know whether the territorial jurisdiction question under dispute with reference to fishing stakes in the Azhimukam here in the Cochin Harbour has come to any settlement. Last year it was brought to the attention of this House that it was a bone of contention. It was said, then, that the matter has been taken up, and that it will be soon settled.

President.—The territorial jurisdiction question between the British Government and the Cochin Government, you mean?

Mr. A B. Salem.—There is some dispute between the British Government and the Cochin Government since the Harbour works began in the harbour mouth, and they have valuable fishing stakes there. I suggested a line of navigation last year, so that outside the line of navigation they may fish. Then I was told that the question of territorial jurisdiction is pending between the British Government and the Cochin Government.

President.—It is still pending.

Mr. A B. Salem.—Of course, we have no official information. So I ask this. I do not know whether any line of navigation have been demarcated in the backwater, for boats to pass freely to the railway station and enable fishing to take place outside that. That was a matter that was pressed to the attention of the Government last year. I was saying that no attempt has been made, and if not, what the Government is doing in this matter of the reduction in stakes, and what line of navigation to the railway station has been considered and given in the Harbour mouth to these poor miserable starving people.

I should like to bring to the notice of the Government that Rs. 7,200 is raised from them. I am sorry that they repeated the same this year also. Not only have they repeated it, but they say, with very great emphasis in the Finance Member's speech, that all this money is being legally collected, and that it is owing to the increase of value in the fishing products. That justification, I am glad, has come from his mouth—the great value of the fish. As far as these poor catchers are concerned, it is all the same. As far as the middle men are concerned, they get a little more. As far as the public at Ernakulam are concerned they have to pay heavily for fish. Understand me Sir, that fish is a great food supply, is a food to the poor people and to augment the food supply is one of the prime duties of Government. The Government has got agriculture, it has got fisheries, and luckily we have got both pisciculture and agriculture side by side. Both these are food-givers. Government, I am

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sorry to say has not directed its attention to the food supply question in the country, and, therefore it is that I press this economic question. It will solve the unemployment problem to a great extent. It will give labour to a large number of people, and I respectfully beg to submit it should be exempted from this taxation. What do we raise by this taxation? It is only a sum of Rs. 7,200. It will be said now that Mr. Salem was the fishery investigator, and it was he who suggested this tax. You have not adopted all I have suggested. You have adopted only taxation. Apart from this taxation, I had suggested, in those days, for the increase of navigation everywhere; this line of navigation must be regulated, compulsorily regulated by force. I said that these stakes—every one of them should have two lights—and that submerged stakes which bring about accidents to boats passing through the backwaters should be rooted out. In order to prevent all that, I asked to attach also caution posts to the stakes. I am glad Government adopted it. To meet the expenditure for lighting these posts and patrolling, and all those things, I said some taxation may be introduced. Now, we have another method of taxation, since the introduction of the Canal Regulation. So that argument does not hold good any longer. We have got a Canal Regulation, and that brings a good amount of money. And it is the duty of the canal authorities to maintain these lights, to maintain a line of navigation and to see that boats are kept safe from submerged stakes. Why should these people groaning under poverty be made a source of income and be directed to pay tax to the Government? And moreover, Sir, now, from whom does the Canal Office gain? From those very poor people. Their boats are taxed, for now, they have to take licenses for their boats, even if they happen to belong to the veritable poor. Their fishing stakes are taxed, their boats are taxed, their nets are taxed, and also they have to pay tax on cotton imported. So you find that these poor people, who take a few fishes from the running water, which is free in nature, have to pay such heavy taxation. Therefore, I ask you to give them relief. After all, the amount is Rs. 7,200. We have a surplus budget and have also an accumulated sinking fund. Therefore, I think that this is a matter which Government will kindly consider. I also want to know from the Canal department how much they have spent in the course of last year for the purposes of navigation and to maintain lighting of caution posts, patrolling, etc., and how much they are going to spend in the coming year for these purposes. It is to know these facts that I have tabled this cut motion.

President.—In regard to Rs. 7,200 that we realise from

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license of these stakes, you want them to be made free; is that your point ?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Yes, Sir.

President.—And then, supposing we make them free, everybody will go in for fishing.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—These stakes are treated as landed property. If the license is taken away, you will be giving them a little relief. They are, after all, the poorest in the country.

President.—If this is done, only people who have got stakes, will be benefitted. What are the other people, who have not got stakes, to do ?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Absolutely no trouble.

President.—Supposing there are hundred thousand Valans, who are engaged in the fishing industry, and that, of these, 20,000 have got stakes, what would the remaining 80,000 do ?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Each of these stakes will want a number of coolies.

President.—So that those, who have not got stakes, will work under those, who have got stakes. That is really the case I know.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Then the whole will be benefitted.

President.—But is it not open to the owners of the stakes to say "You are all working under us, so we must have the lion's share ?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—It is open to them, but it is never done. Equal share is given to them. It is they who actually go to the water and catch the fish.

പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു്.—എന്താ! മിസ്റ്റർ കറുപ്പൻ! നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തു് വളരെ ഉറുനികം ഉണ്ടു. എന്നാൽ എല്ലാവക്കും ഇല്ലതാനും. ലൈസൻസു് വേണ്ടെന്നുവെച്ചാൽ എല്ലാവരും അതിലേക്കു ചാകയും ചെയ്യും. ഇപ്പോഴാ ലൈസൻസു് വകയിൽ ഫ0,000 രൂപയോളം കിട്ടുന്നുമുണ്ടു. അതുകൊണ്ടു് വേണ്ടെന്നുവെക്കുവാൻ സാധിക്കുമോ ?

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. ഭാസ്കരമേനോൻ.—പതിനായിരമില്ല. അയ്യായിരമെ ഉള്ളു.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കറുപ്പൻ.—ഉറുനികം ഇല്ലാത്തവക്കു അതു കൊണ്ടുപോയി ഉപയോഗിച്ചു് ഒരു ലാഭം എടുക്കാം.

പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു്.—അതു വേല ചെയ്യാൽ എല്ലാവക്കും കൂലി കൊടുക്കണമല്ലൊ. എനിക്കു സ്വന്തമായ ഒരു നിലം ഉണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അതിൽ കൃഷി ചെയ്യുന്നവക്കും ഒരു ഓഹരിയൊ കൂലിയൊ കൊടുക്കാതെ സാധിക്കുകയില്ലല്ലൊ.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി കറുപ്പൻ.—അതുപോലെതന്നെയാണു് ഇവക്കും കിട്ടാവുന്നതു്.

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പ്രസിഡണ്ട്.—അതുകൊണ്ട് വാലസമുദായത്തിനു പൊതുവെ ഒരു ഗുണം ഉണ്ടായെന്നു വരുമൊ? ലൈസൻസ് വേണ്ടെന്നു വെച്ചാൽ ഉടമസ്ഥന്മാക്ക് ആദായം കുട്ടും. എന്നല്ലാതെ പൊതുവെ ഗുണമാണൊ എന്നാലോചിക്കണ്ടേ?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. അച്യുതമേനോൻ.—മീൻ വിറ്റാലും ഉടമസ്ഥന്മാക്ക് അധികം വില കിട്ടും.

പ്രസിഡണ്ട്.—ഇപ്പോൾ ചൂണ്ടലിനു നികുതിയുണ്ടോ, മിസ്റ്റർ കരുപ്പൻ?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കരുപ്പൻ.—ഉവ്വ്. അതിനും നികുതികൊടുക്കുന്നവരുണ്ട്.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Moreover, these sign posts are paid for by the *Padu* people.

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—First, they were supplied by the Government. When they became useless, they were asked to replace them at their own cost.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I say some Regulation is necessary.

President.—Let us understand the difficulty. Can you reasonably suggest a method by which these fishermen may enjoy the benefit of the stakes?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I shall explain to you, Sir. For fishing by stakes and Chinese nets you charge. There are very many other kinds of fishing which you do not charge.

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—Other kinds of fishing we charge.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That is because a piece of land is surrounded by Government lands on all sides. It is just like fishing from my own tank. It is only legitimate. They can lease it out. That is absolutely legitimate. We can understand it. Now, do you charge people who go and fish in the backwater with their rods? There is no tax.

President.—But I don't think it is for selling.

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—They are charged at the rate of one rupee a year.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—It is for *Chinese nets* and not for ordinary *chundal*. They are not charged for, I know.

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—We issue licenses for these *chundals*, and if people catch fish without license, it will be considered as unauthorised fishing. They come under minor fishing.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—This is news to me. In British India, all over Bombay Presidency, fishing is not charged. In the case of private lands they are charged, but nowhere else. In the Fishery department in British India, I know what takes place. As

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a matter of fact,all over Malabar only in the case of those tanks, which are leased out, do you find this. No other kind of fishing is charged.

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—The Hon'ble Member does not know what is going on in Cochin. Please try to understand what is going on here in Cochin first.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.—സർ, ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട വാലമ്മേൽ പറഞ്ഞതിൽ നിന്നും ഞാൻ മനസ്സിലാക്കിയതു് മത്സ്യവ്യവസായത്തെ ഒരു പ്രത്യേക ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടിന്റെ അധീനതയിൽ ആക്കേണമെന്നും, മത്സ്യബന്ധനത്തിനായി പല നൂതന വിദ്യകളും ഏർപ്പെടുത്തി ഒരു വിപുലമായ വ്യവസായമാക്കി കൂടുതൽ അഭിവൃദ്ധിപ്പെടുത്താൻ വേണ്ട ഏർപ്പാടുകൾ ചെയ്യണമെന്നും ആണു്. അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ നിവേദനം ഇങ്ങിനെയാണെന്നാണു ഞാൻ ഗ്രഹിച്ചതു്.

പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു്.—രണ്ടും വേണ്ടമെന്നാണു്. പ്രത്യേക ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടും വേണം. അഗ്രിക്കൾച്ചറിന്റെ മാതിരി വലുതാക്കി അഭിവൃദ്ധിപ്പെടുത്തുകയും വേണം.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.—ആ രണ്ടു അഭിപ്രായവും ആണു് അദ്ദേഹം ഇവിടെ സമർപ്പിച്ചതെങ്കിൽ അതു നിശ്ചയമായും വലിയ പ്രയോജനകരമായതുതന്നെ. ഈ രണ്ടു അഭിപ്രായങ്ങളും നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തുന്ന പക്ഷം മത്സ്യം പിടിക്കുന്നതിനു സ്വന്തം ഉന്നികൾ ഇല്ലാതെയും യാതൊരു വിധത്തിലും രക്ഷ ഇല്ലാതെയും കിടക്കുന്ന വാലന്മാർക്കു തൊഴിൽ ഉണ്ടാവുകയും അവർക്കും ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിനും ലഭിക്കുന്ന ആദായം വർദ്ധിക്കയും ചെയ്യും. നമ്മുടെ കടലിലും കായലിലും ധാരാളം മത്സ്യങ്ങൾ വളരുന്നുണ്ടെന്നു പ്രത്യക്ഷത്തിൽ തന്നെ കാണാവുന്നതാണു. ബോട്ടു പൊയ്ക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുമ്പോൾ വളരെ മത്സ്യങ്ങൾ ചാടിയും ഓടിയും നടക്കുന്നതായികാണാൻ സാധിക്കും. വളരെ മത്സ്യങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടെന്നു തന്നെയല്ല പലതരം വിശേഷപ്പെട്ട മത്സ്യങ്ങളും കായലിലും കടലിലും ഉണ്ടു്. അവകളെ കുണ്ടർ മുതലായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ അയച്ചുവിൽക്കുന്നു എന്നു പറയുന്നവർ ഇപ്പോഴും റെയിൽവെ സ്റ്റേഷനു സമീപം ഉണ്ടു്.

ഇവിടെ അനേകം സൌകര്യങ്ങൾ പ്രകൃത്യാതന്നെ നമുക്കു ലഭിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. അതിനാൽ ഈ വ്യവസായത്തിന്റെ വർദ്ധനക്കായി ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടു ശ്രമിക്കുന്നതു അത്യാവശ്യം വേണ്ടതായിരിക്കുന്നു. ആദ്യമായി അതിനെ ഒരു പ്രത്യേക ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടാക്കണം. പിന്നെ അതിലേക്കു, ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ പ്രത്യേകം പരിശീലനം സിദ്ധിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളവരെ വരുത്തുകയോ, ഇവിടെ ഉള്ളവരിൽ നിന്നും പ്രത്യേകിച്ചും ആ തൊഴിലിൽ ഏർപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നവരിൽ നിന്നു സമർത്ഥനായ ഒരാളെ അയച്ചു പഠിപ്പിച്ചു വരുത്തി ആ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്

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മെണ്ടു് മേധാവിയാക്കുകയൊ ചെയ്യുന്നതു് ഉത്തമമായിരിക്കും. അപ്പോൾ അതു ലാൻറു് റവന്യൂവിനെ പോലെ തന്നെ ഒരു വാട്ടർ റവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടാവുകയും ചെയ്യും. കൂടാതെ അരയന്മാക്കും മറ്റും വലിയ രക്ഷ ആകുകയും ചെയ്യും. അതിനു സമർത്ഥന്മാർ ഈ ജാതിക്കാർതന്നെയാണു്. ഈഴവക്കു തെങ്ങുചെത്തുപോലെയാണു് അരയന്മാക്കു് മീൻ പിടിത്തം. തെങ്ങുചെത്തുന്നതിനു ഈഴവരെക്കൊണ്ടേ കഴികയുള്ളു. മറ്റുള്ള വർഗ്ഗക്കാരെക്കൊണ്ടു് തെങ്ങുചെത്താൻ സാധിക്കയില്ല. അഥവാ ശ്രമിച്ചാൽതന്നെ ഫലം അതുത്തോളം കിട്ടുകയില്ല. ആപൽക്കരവുമായേക്കാം.

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോജ്ജു് ചക്യാമുറി.—അരയന്മാരല്ല വാലന്മാരാണു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.—അരയന്മാരും വാലന്മാരുമായി വലിയ വ്യത്യാസം ഒന്നുമില്ല. ഈഴവർ, തീയൻ, ചോവൻ എന്നറിയപ്പെടുന്ന മാതിരിയെ വ്യത്യാസമുള്ളു. അതു് ഒരു സമുദായത്തെ തന്നെ സ്ഥലവ്യത്യാസമനുസരിച്ചു പേരു വ്യത്യാസപ്പെടുത്തി വിളിക്കുന്നുവെന്നേ ഉള്ളു.

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോജ്ജു് ചക്യാമുറി.—അരയന്മാരെന്നു പറയുന്നതു് കടൽ ജോലിക്കാരെയാണു്. കായലിൽ നിന്നും മത്സ്യം പിടിക്കുന്നവരാകുന്നു വാലന്മാർ.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഐ. ഇ. അന്തുക്കൻ.—വാലന്മാരും അരയന്മാരും തമ്മിൽ മിശ്രവിവാഹം നടത്താറുണ്ടൊ?

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.—വിവാഹം നടത്താറില്ലായിരിക്കാം. മറ്റു സംഗതികളിൽ യോജിച്ചാണു് പ്രവൃത്തിക്കുന്നതു്. വിശേഷിച്ചും തൊഴിൽകൊണ്ടു് വ്യത്യാസം ഇല്ല.

അതെങ്ങിനെയും ആകട്ടെ. ഇതിനെ ഒരു പ്രത്യേക ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടാക്കി അതിൽ വിദഗ്ധനായ ഒരാളെയും നിയമിച്ചു് പുതിയതരം സാമഗ്രികളും വരുത്തി ഇതിനെ അഭിവൃദ്ധിപ്പെടുത്തിയാൽ ഗുണകരമാണു്.

President.—Mr. Achyuta Menon, are you considering this matter in the Special Finance Committee, whether a separate department has to be created?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Whether there is ample scope for creating a separate department? We have not got the statistics.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Let there be a Fishery Assistant to the Superintendent of Agriculture.

President.—The Fishery department is combined with ome other department. A Fishery Assistant to the Agricultural Superintendent.—is that what you want? It is now working under the Land Revenue Department. There is some attention paid to it by the department.

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മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.—ഈ പ്രമേയത്തിന്റെ അവതാരകനായ ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെമ്പർ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ മുത്തുകളും രത്നങ്ങളും നമ്മുടെകടലിൽനിന്നും കിട്ടുമോ എന്നുള്ള കാര്യം എനിക്കു സംശയമാണു്. (ചിരി) പക്ഷെ അനേകഷോപ്പറിയാതെ തീർച്ചപറയാനും വയ്യാ. സമുദ്രത്തിനു് രത്നാകര എന്നു പറയുന്നുണ്ടു്. മത്സ്യം കിട്ടുമെന്നുള്ളതിൽ അശേഷം സംശയം വേണ്ട. കൂടുതലായി ഫിഷ് കൂറിങ്ങ് യാർഡുകൾ തുറന്നു കിട്ടണമെന്നു ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടിരുന്നതുതന്നെ മത്സ്യത്തിന്റെ വർദ്ധനവുകൊണ്ടാണെന്നു ഊഹിക്കാമല്ലൊ. അതിനാൽ ഞാനും ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു. നിശ്ചയമായും ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടും ഇതിനെ സ്വീകരിച്ചു പ്രവൃത്തിയിൽ വരുത്തേണ്ടതാണു്.

പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു്.—ഇപ്പോൾ ലാൻഡ് റെവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിൽ നിന്നും ഒരു ഫിഷറി ഇൻസ്പെക്ടരെ നിയമിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അദ്ദേഹം വല്ല പ്രോത്സാഹനങ്ങളും ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.—ഒരു ലാൻഡ് റെവന്യൂ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടരെ ഫിഷറി ഇൻസ്പെക്ടരായി നിയമിച്ചാൽ വല്ലതായ ഗുണങ്ങൾ വല്ലതും ചെയ്യാൻ സാധിക്കയില്ല. ആ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥൻ കരയിൽ നിന്നു വെള്ളത്തിലെക്കു പോകുമെന്നുള്ള ഒരു മാറ്റമേയുണ്ടാകയുള്ളു. പ്രത്യേകിച്ചും അന്യവർഗ്ഗീയരായാൽ ഫലം കുറഞ്ഞു ഇരിക്കും. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർക്കു് ഇക്കാര്യത്തിൽ ഒരു പ്രത്യേക പരിശീലനവും ഇല്ല.

പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു്.—എന്നാൽ അവരിൽ നിന്നുതന്നെ ഒരാളെ ജപ്പാനിൽ അയച്ചു പഠിപ്പിച്ചു വരുത്തുന്നതായിരിക്കും നല്ലതു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.—അങ്ങിനെ അവരിൽ നിന്നു് ഒന്നോ രണ്ടോ ആളെ അയച്ചു് പഠിപ്പിച്ചു വരുത്തിയാൽ അവർക്കായി ചിലവാക്കുന്ന തുക ഒരിക്കലും നഷ്ടത്തിൽ കലാശിക്കുകയില്ല.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Why should it be from the Valans? Rs. 150 was the scholarship suggested by the Madras Government to send a man to the fishery school at Tokio and passage money of Rs. 300. These facilities will be more than sufficient.

President.—Why should we send a Valan?

Mr. M. K. Raman.—There is a Vala graduate.

Mr. C. Matthai.—Yes, Sir. He is employed in my department.

President.—I think, if we send him, that would be a step in the right direction. Naturally he will take more interest. Unless we get a trained man, who knows the industry, there is no use of sending him for training.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—He can be in charge of both the Agricultural and Fisheries Departments'.

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President.—Then we get an opportunity for separating these Panchayats from the Agricultural Department. Agriculture and Fisheries are cognate subjects.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കറുപ്പൻ.—സർ,

പ്രസിഡെണ്ട്.—ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി ഇനിയും വിസ്തരിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതിനു് സമയം ഇല്ല. ഒരാളെ ജപ്പാനിലോ മറ്റോ അയച്ചു പരിശീലിപ്പിക്കാമെന്നു ഗവൺമെണ്ടു സമ്മതിക്കുന്നു.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കറുപ്പൻ.—അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്യാമെന്നു കഴിഞ്ഞ മീറ്റിംഗിൽ വെച്ചു പറഞ്ഞിട്ടു് അതിലെക്കായി ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ ഒരു തുകയും കാണിച്ചിട്ടില്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടാണു് മോഷൻ കൊണ്ടുവന്നതുതന്നെയും

പ്രസിഡെണ്ട്.—സ്കോളർഷിപ്പുകൊടുത്തു് മിടുക്കനായ ഒരു ചെറുപ്പക്കാരനെ വാലസമുദായത്തിൽ നിന്നു് അയക്കാം. അതു് എവിടെയാണു് നല്ലപോലെ നടക്കുന്നതു്?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കറുപ്പൻ.—ബ്രട്ടീഷിലും നല്ലപോലെ നടക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്.

ഡാക്ടർ എ. ആർ. മേനോൻ.—ജപ്പാനാണു് ഏറ്റവും നല്ല സ്ഥലം.

പ്രസിഡെണ്ട്.—വെറുതെ പഠിച്ചാൽ മാത്രം പോരാ. പ്രായോഗികജ്ഞാനം ഉണ്ടാകണം. അങ്ങിനെ ഉള്ള സ്ഥലത്തു വേണം അയക്കേണ്ടതു്, ഇക്കായ്ത്തിലൊക്കെ പഠിപ്പിനെക്കാൾ പ്രായോഗികതയാണു് ആവശ്യം.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.—ഈ വ്യവസായം ഇന്നു് ഏറ്റവും അഭിവൃദ്ധി പ്രാപിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു് ജപ്പാനിൽ തന്നെയാണു്.

പ്രസിഡെണ്ട്.—ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റിനല്ല അറിവു സമ്പാദിക്കാൻ എത്ര കൊല്ലം വേണ്ടിവരും?

ഡാക്ടർ എ. ആർ. മേനോൻ.—ഏകദേശം മൂന്നുകൊല്ലം ആണെന്നാണു് തോന്നുന്നതു?

പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു്.—എത്രകൊല്ലം വേണമെന്നാണു് മിസ്റ്റർ കറുപ്പൻ അറിഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളതു്?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കറുപ്പൻ.—മൂന്നുകൊല്ലം തന്നെ.

പ്രസിഡെണ്ട്.—അതിനു ഒരാളെ സ്കോളർഷിപ്പു കൊടുത്തു് അയക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ എന്തു ചിലവാകുമെന്നാണു് അറിവു്?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കറുപ്പൻ.—അതെ 2,000 രൂപാ ചിലവാകും.

പ്രസിഡെണ്ട്.—കൊല്ലം തൊറും മൂവ്വായിരം രൂപാ വീതം. ഇങ്ങിനെ പോയി മൂന്നു കൊല്ലം കൊണ്ടു് പഠിച്ചുവരാൻ തക്ക സാമർത്ഥ്യമുള്ള ചെറുപ്പക്കാർ വാലസമുദായത്തിൽ ഉണ്ടോ?

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മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കറുപ്പൻ.—ഉണ്ടു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോജ്ജ് ചാക്കാമുറി.—ഈ കായ്ത്തിൽ എനിക്കും കുറച്ചു് പറയാനുണ്ടു്. അതു് ഒന്നാമത്തേതു് ഫിഷറി ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിൽ ഏർപ്പെട്ടിരുന്ന ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ മത്സ്യത്തിന്റേയും അതു സംബന്ധമായ മറ്റു കായ്ങ്ങളേയും കുറിച്ചുള്ള ഗുണദോഷം അറിയാവുന്നവരായിരിക്കണം എന്നതാണു്. മനിന്റെ ഗുണദോഷങ്ങളും തരാതരങ്ങളും അറിഞ്ഞുകൂടാത്ത ഒരാളെ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടരായൊ, മറ്റു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനായോ നിയമിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് ഒരു ഗുണവും ഉണ്ടാകയില്ല. അതിനാൽ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർ ആയാലും ശരി, മറ്റാരായാലും ശരി, ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിൽ നിയമിക്കുന്നവർ ഈ തൊഴിൽക്കാരിൽ നിന്നുള്ളവർ തന്നെ ആയിരിക്കണം.

പിന്നെ ഒന്നു് ദിവാൻജി അവർകളും ഇപ്പോൾ ചോദിച്ചതു പോലെ വൂണ്ടലിനും മറ്റും ഉള്ള നികുതി ഇല്ലാതെയാക്കണം. വലിയ നികുതികളും നിറുത്തൽ ചെയ്തില്ലെങ്കിലും മൈനർ നികുതികളും എങ്കിലും ഉടനെ നിറുത്തൽ ചെയ്യേണ്ടതാണു്. വാലന്മാർ എന്നല്ല ആ തൊഴിലിൽ ഏർപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നവരൊക്കെ മഹാസാധുക്കളാണു്. ഇപ്പോൾ മീൻപിടിക്കുന്നതിനു് അവർ വീശുവല, ക്രുര, വൂണ്ടു, നരുപ്പു്, ആദിയായിപ്പലവിധ ഉപകരണങ്ങളും നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തു് ഉപയോഗിച്ചു വരുന്നുണ്ടു്. അതിനു് എല്ലാറ്റിനും നികുതിയും ചുമത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഞങ്ങളുടെസ്ഥലത്തു് ഈ ജോലിക്കാർ ധാരാളം ഉണ്ടു്. ചിലപ്പോൾ ഇവർ മീൻപിടിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുമ്പോൾ ഫിഷറി ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർ എന്നുപേരുള്ള ഒരാൾ മോട്ടോർബോട്ടിൽ വന്നു് പാവപ്പെട്ട വാലന്മാരുടെയും മറ്റും വൂണ്ടലും, വലയും പിടിച്ചു പറിച്ചു് അവരുടെ വള്ളങ്ങളെ ബോട്ടിനോടു ചേർത്തു കെട്ടിയിട്ടുകൊണ്ടു് ഓടിച്ചുപോകുന്ന കഷ്ടതരമായ കാഴ്ച ഞാൻ പലപ്പോഴും കണ്ടിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഈ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർ അവിടെ വന്നുകഴിഞ്ഞാൽ അയാളുടെ ബോട്ടിൽ വള്ളവും കെട്ടിയിട്ടുകാണാം. അവരെ കരയ്ക്കടുപ്പിച്ചിട്ടു് ആ സാധുക്കളുടെ പക്കൽനിന്നും ഒന്നോരണ്ടോ രൂപാ—അതു പിഴയാണോ മറ്റു വല്ല വിധത്തിലുമാണോ എന്നു നിശ്ചയമില്ല (ചിരി)—വാങ്ങിയിട്ടു് അവരെ വിട്ടയയ്ക്കുണ്ടു്. ഇതൊക്കെ പരമാർത്ഥമായി നടക്കുന്ന സംഗതിയാണു്. ഞാൻ സാധാരണ കണ്ടുവരുന്നതാണു്. വില്ലേജ് പാവ്വത്തക്കാരന്മാരും സാധുക്കളായ വാലന്മാരെ ഉപദ്രവിക്കുന്ന കാഴ്ച ഞാൻ കണ്ടിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഈ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർ വരുന്നു എന്നു കേട്ടാൽ തന്നെ അവർക്കു് ഭയം തുടങ്ങും. വന്നാൽ ഉള്ള അനുഭവം അവരെ അവരുടെ തൊഴിൽ ചെയ്യാൻ സമ്മതിക്കാതെ വള്ളങ്ങളേയും കെട്ടിവലിച്ചു കൊണ്ടു് ഓടിച്ചു കരക്കടുപ്പിച്ചു രൂപാ വാങ്ങുന്നതാണു്. ചിലപ്പോൾ അവരുടെ (വാലന്മാരുടെ) ചെകിടിനിട്ടു് അടിക്കുന്നതും പതിവാണു്. ഇതു് എത്രത്തോളം കഷ്ടതരവും സങ്കടകരവും ആയ ഒന്നാണു്? ഇതാണോ ഒരു ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർ ചെയ്യേണ്ടതു്? ഇതിനാണോ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടരെ നിയമിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു്? അവരുടെ ആമീൻ പിടിത്തം കൊണ്ടു വേണം ഒരു കുടുംബം കഴിയേണ്ടതു

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അതിനാൽ സാർ, മൈനർ നികുതികൾ എങ്കിലും എടുത്തു കളയുന്നതിൽ ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധ ഉണ്ടാകണമെന്നു് ഞാൻ അപേക്ഷിച്ചു കൊള്ളുന്നു.

ഡാക്ടർ എ. ജി. മേനോൻ.—ഈ കാര്യത്തെക്കുറിച്ചു് എനിക്കും ഒന്നു പറയാനുണ്ടു്. ഇവിടെ ഇപ്പോൾ കടൽ, കടൽ, കായൽ എന്നൊക്കെയാണു് സംസാരം. ഞങ്ങളുടെ ചിറയ്ക്കൽ മുതലായ നാടുകളിലും ഈ തൊഴിലുള്ള സാധുക്കൾ ഉണ്ടു്. അവിടെ കടലും കായലും ഇല്ല. വലിയ പുഴകളാണു്. ആ സാധുക്കൾക്കും ക്ലേശനികുതി ഇളവുചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണെന്നു് ഞാനും അഭിപ്രായപ്പെടുന്നു.

President.—How much do we get from the inland fisheries?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—What is the rate charged per head under minor fisheries?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That will depend upon the nature of the instrument. Agricultural instruments are exempted from attachment by courts of law. And the amount got by the levy of tax on implements is nothing when compared with the trouble the fishermen undergo. You cannot carry on these works with highly paid officials. That means you give room for complaint. Out of the Rs.7,200, the amount that actually is got from minor fisheries is only Rs. 5,000. And what amount of harrassment the fishermen undergo? They will be much more than this Rs. 5,000. Therefore, let us give no room for this complaint.

President.—That is one view of the matter, and the development of this industry the other.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Why not combine the Fisheries department with the Canal department and make preserved fishes here as is done in British Malabar?

President.—Even for that we want qualified men. So the question of scholarship was suggested.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—They have stopped this system in Malabar. They have found it is not paying.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—But they are extracting sardine oil.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—They have found it paying. They are doing well in South Canara.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—One man may be sent for a year's training in Malabar and another to Japan for three years' training. For an intelligent man one year would be quite sufficient for the training in Malabar. As regards the training in Japan, it is complicated, and will take three years, and the man trained in Malabar can become an assistant to the Japan man.

Mr. C. Matthai.—Why not send the same man?

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Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Why not get advice from outside?

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—I suggested that one man might be sent to Malabar and one to Japan, because, by the time the Japan man returns, we can make a beginning.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—The Government have got before them a complete detailed report of 1908.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—By whom?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—By myself. They have got a full report of the activities in the State and in Madras. If only they adopt some of these suggestions, they would develop the food supply.

President.—Is there any difference between your report and the Madras report?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—No difference of any kind. It is up to date. Only in Malabar they have started a Fisheries company, a Fishery school and an Aquarium.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Sir, it is said these measures have been adopted in Madras and other places. May I know, if the fisherman's lot has been bettered there? Can you prove it by facts and figures? As a matter of fact, in the case of the men who go in for such low professions, you can improve the industry but not their lot. They will be fishermen still. They must be reclaimed. Our people are divided into separate classes according to their professions. Some are high, some are low. Men, whose professions are low, will always remain low. You may send men to England and America for training, but the fisherman's lot will not be improved. If you want to improve his lot, he must be reclaimed. That is where we should work. Suppose the fishing industry is improved, and suppose several people take to it, how will the condition of the Valans be improved?

President.—This reclamation can be brought about only by education?

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—And by several other social improvements. Without that you will find that their lot will not improve. If this is not done, I prophesy that the Valan will be a low man conducting his hereditary low profession.

President.—Is that the case with the fishermen elsewhere?

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Even in England that is the case. The fisherman is low.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഐ. ഇ. അനൂക്കൻ.—ഇതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് എനിക്കും ഒരു വാക്കുപറയുവാനുണ്ട്. ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട പള്ളിരുത്തി മെമ്പർ അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ടതുപോലെ 'മൈനർ നികുതികൾ' എടുത്തുകളയണം. ഇ വകയിൽ ഇപ്പോൾ ഉദ്ദേശം രൂപയെ വരവുള്ളൂ. അതു വാലന്മാർ

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എന്നമാത്രമല്ല ഈ തൊഴിൽ ചെയ്യുന്ന എല്ലാ തരം സാധുക്കളിൽനിന്നും ഇതുടാക്കുന്നതാണ്. അതു അവക്ക് വലിയ വിഷമത്തിനും ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടിനും ഉപദ്രവത്തിനു ക്രൂടെയും കാരണമാകുന്നു. ഉന്നികുറിക്കുംക്രൂടി നികുതി വെച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു വളരെ ഉപദ്രവകരമാകുന്നു. മറ്റു ഉപകരണങ്ങൾക്കും അവർ ലൈസൻസ്സ് എടുക്കേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. അതും നികുതിയാണ്. ഉന്നികുറം വാലന്മാർക്കു മാത്രമെ പാടുള്ളു എന്നു വച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു് ഒട്ടും നന്നല്ല. ഈ തൊഴിൽ ചെയ്യുന്നവർക്കെല്ലാം സ്റ്റേക്ക്സ് (ഉന്നികുറം) ആകാമെന്നു വെക്കണം. അല്ലെങ്കിൽ അതു് അനീതിയാണു്. ഇതിൽ ഏർപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നവർ വാലന്മാർ മാത്രമല്ല മറ്റു പല ജാതിക്കാരും ഉണ്ടു്. വാലന്മാർ എന്നു പറയുന്നവർ കൊച്ചി കണയന്നൂർ, കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂർ എന്നീ രണ്ടു താലൂക്കുകളിൽ മാത്രമേയുള്ള വടക്കോട്ടു ചെന്നാൽ അതായതു് തൃശ്ശിവപേരൂർ താലൂക്കിലും മറ്റും വാലന്മാരല്ലാത്തവരാണു് ഈ തൊഴിലിൽ ഏർപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നവർ.

പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു്.—അതുശരിയാണു്. വടക്കോട്ടൊന്നും വാലന്മാരില്ല. അവിടെ മറ്റു ജാതിക്കാരാണു് മത്സ്യം പിടിക്കുന്നതു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഐ. ഇ. അമ്പൂക്കൻ.—അവിടങ്ങളിൽ മത്സ്യം പിടിക്കുന്നവർ ക്രസ്ത്യാനികളും ജോനകന്മാരും ആണു്. അതുപോലെ തന്നെ കടലിൽ നിന്നും മത്സ്യം പിടിക്കുന്നവർ അരയന്മാർ മാത്രമല്ല. തെക്കോട്ടു തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ക്രസ്ത്യാനികളാണു് ഇതിൽ അധികമായി ഏർപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നതെന്നു കാണാം. അവർ മരയ്ക്കന്മാർ എന്നു പേരിലാണെന്നു തോന്നുന്നു അറിയപ്പെടുന്നതു്. ഇക്കാരണങ്ങളാൽ മത്സ്യം പിടിക്കുന്നതു് വാലന്മാർക്കു മാത്രമേ ആകാവുള്ളു എന്നോ, അവർക്കു മാത്രമേ ചെയ്യാവൂ എന്നോ പറയാൻ പാടില്ല. ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടും അങ്ങിനെ ശാഠ്യം പിടിക്കരുതു്. ഈ വക നികുതി ഇളവു ചെയ്യുമ്പോൾ വാലന്മാർക്കു എന്നു മാത്രമല്ല, ഈ ഉപകരണങ്ങൾ ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നവർക്കൊക്കെ ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടു് നികുതി ഇളവു ചെയ്യുന്ന കാര്യത്തിൽ പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധ പതിക്കണം.

പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു്.—അതു ന്യായം തന്നെയാണു്. അതു ഇന്നതുമാത്രമേ ചെയ്യാവൂ എന്നു വെയ്ക്കുന്നതു ശരിയല്ല തന്നെ. ഒരു വർഗ്ഗക്കാർക്കു അതു ചെയ്യാൻ പാടുള്ളു എന്നതൊക്കെ പഴയ സമ്പ്രദായമായിരുന്നു. സ്റ്റേക്കിന്റെ കാര്യത്തിൽ വാലന്മാർക്കു മാത്രമെ പാടുള്ളു എന്നാണു് നിയമം. അതു അതു ശരിയല്ല. ആർക്കും ആകാമെന്നു വെക്കേണ്ടതാണു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കറുപ്പൻ.—സർ, അതു വാലന്മാർക്കു മാത്രം കൊടുക്കാൻ പ്രത്യേകം കാരണങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടു്. തീവണ്ടിയും ബോട്ടും ഇല്ലാതിരുന്ന കാലങ്ങളിൽ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെയും സായ്പന്മാരേയും മറ്റും കോളും മഴയും വെയിലും വക വെയ്ക്കാതെ വള്ളത്തിൽ കയറ്റി കൊണ്ടുപോവുക എന്നതു് അവരുടെ ചുമതലയായിരുന്നു. അതിനു വാലന്മാർ ഒരു ഉഴവേലയായിട്ടാണു് ചെയ്തിരുന്നതു്. ചിലപ്പോൾ ശിക്ഷയും കിട്ടുന്നതിനു കുറവുണ്ടായിരുന്നില്ല.

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മിസ്റ്റർ ഐ. ഇ. അമ്യൂക്കൻ.—പണ്ടു നികുതി കൊടുത്തിരുന്നു കിൽ കുറച്ചു നിറുത്തി കല്പുകയറുന്ന സമ്പ്രദായവും ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നു.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കറുപ്പൻ.—ഏതാണ്ടു നൂറു മുതൽ ഇരു ജോലി വാലന്മാർ തന്നെയാണു വഹിച്ചിരുന്നതു. മറ്റാരും ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നില്ല. അതിന്റെ പരമാർത്ഥം ഹജൂരിലെ റിക്കാർഡുകളിൽ നിന്നു തന്നെ അറിയാവുന്നതാണു. സായ്പന്മാക്കും മറ്റും ആലുവാ വെള്ളം കൊടുക്കുന്നതും വാലന്മാരുടെ കടമയായിരുന്നു. ഇതിനെല്ലാം പ്രതിഫലമായി ഒരു ദിവസത്തേക്കു കിട്ടിയിരുന്നതു് വെറും ഒരു പുത്തൻ മാത്രമായിരുന്നു. അവർ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനു വേണ്ടി വളരെ കഷ്ടത സഹിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ഒരു ജനസമൂഹമാണു. അതിന്റെ പാരിതോഷികമായിട്ടാണു് ഉന്നിക്കുറിക്കും അവക്കു മാത്രമേ ആകാവുള്ളു എന്നു കല്പിച്ചു കൊടുത്തതു. ആ വിവരങ്ങൾ എല്ലാം ഹജൂരിൽ ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നു. ഇപ്പോൾ സംഗതിവശാൽ ചിലതൊക്കെ നശിച്ചുപോകയും ചെയ്തു.

പ്രസിഡണ്ടു്.—മത്സ്യവ്യവസായം ഇപ്പോഴത്തേക്കാൾ ആലോചകരമായി വന്നാൽ മറ്റുള്ളവക്കും ആ തൊഴിൽ ചെയ്യണമെന്നു് ആശയുണ്ടാകും. അപ്പോൾ വാലന്മാക്കു മാത്രമെ പാടുള്ളു എന്നു പറയുന്നതു് ശരിയാവുകയില്ലല്ലോ.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി കറുപ്പൻ—അതു ശരിയായിരിക്കുകയില്ല തന്നെ. ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട അഡൂർ മെമ്പറിനു് എന്റെ പ്രസംഗത്തിൽ തെറ്റിദ്ധാരണ ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു തോന്നുന്നു. ഞാൻ വാലന്മാരുടെ മാത്രമല്ല, ഈ തൊഴിലിൽ ഏർപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്ന എല്ലാവക്കും ക്രടിയാണു് വാദിക്കുന്നതു്. അതു് കുസ്താനി ആയാലും മഹമ്മദീയനായാലും വാലനായാലും ശരി. സ്റ്റേക്ക് സിന്റെ കായ്മാണെങ്കിൽ അതു് പണ്ടു് ഉഴിഞ്ഞുവല ചെയ്ത വാലന്മാക്കു പ്രതിഫലമായി കല്പിച്ചുകൊടുത്തതിനെഇപ്പോൾ അവരുടെ അനന്തിരവന്മാർ അനുഭവിക്കുന്നുവെന്നേയുള്ളു.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കൃഷ്ണമേനോൻ.—ഇതുസംബന്ധമായി ഒരു സംഗതി എനിക്കും പറയാനുണ്ടു. ഉന്നിക്കുറിക്കും അനുവദിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു, മത്സ്യത്തിന്റെ ജീവനാ മാത്രമല്ല നാശം. മനുഷ്യന്റെ ജീവനും നാശം ഉണ്ടാകാറുണ്ടു്. അതിനാൽ പുഴകളിലും കായലുകളിലും ഉള്ള കുറ്റികൾ ഒന്നൊഴിയാതെ നീക്കം ചെയ്യണമെന്നു് ഞാൻ അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ടുകൊള്ളുന്നു. ഒന്നു രണ്ടു ദിവസം മുമ്പു് ഈ കൌൺസിലിൽ ഹാജരാകാനായി വന്നുകൊണ്ടിരുന്ന ഒരു മാന്യമെംബർ പരലോക കൌൺസിലിലേക്കു പോകേണ്ടതായിരുന്നു. ഇതു അപകടമായ വേറൊരു സ്ഥാനം പുഴയിലില്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കറുപ്പൻ.—അതിനാണു് വിളക്കു വയ്ക്കുന്നതു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം കൃഷ്ണമേനോൻ.—എല്ലാ സമയത്തും എല്ലാസ്ഥലത്തും വെയ്ക്കാൻ ആളുണ്ടു്. സമയത്തിനു വിളക്കു കത്തിയ്ക്കാൻ ആളെ

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കാണുകയില്ല. മഹാഭയങ്കരമായ കക്കടകമാസത്തിലെ കറുത്ത വാവു നാൾ വിളക്കു വെപ്പുകാരൻ വിളക്കുവെയ്ക്കാൻ പോകുമോ അതല്ല അവന്റെ ജീവനെ കായ്മായി ഗണിക്കുമോ ?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കറുപ്പൻ.—മോട്ടാറിലും മറ്റും വിളക്കു വയ്ക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. അവർ വച്ചില്ലെങ്കിൽ എന്തുചെയ്യും?

Mr. A. B. Salem. One or two accidents are inevitable. Some accidents occur even for the trains.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കൃഷ്ണമേനോൻ.—ഏതായാലും ഒരു കായ്മും ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് പ്രത്യേകം ആലോചിക്കേണ്ടതുണ്ടു്. ഇവിടെ വിദ്വാന്മാർ കഴിയുന്നിടത്തോളം കുറഞ്ഞാൽ കൌൺസിലിലെ തിക്കിനും തിരക്കിനും തെറിക്കും ഒക്കെ കുറവുണ്ടാകും.

ഡാക്ടർ എ. ജി. മേനോൻ.—May I take objection to that word "തെറി"? തെറി എന്ന വാക്കു് ഉപയോഗിച്ചുകൂടാത്തതാണു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കൃഷ്ണമേനോൻ.—I withdraw. അല്ലെങ്കിൽ മാന്യമെമ്പർമാർ "ചീത്ത വാക്കു പായുന്നതു" എന്നാവാം.

ഡാക്ടർ. എ. ജി. മേനോൻ.—ഇവിടെ ആരും ചീത്ത പറയുന്നില്ല. ആ വാക്കും ഉപയോഗിക്കാൻ പാടില്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കൃഷ്ണമേനോൻ.—അതും നന്നല്ലെങ്കിൽ ബഹുമാന പ്പെട്ട മെമ്പർമാർ 'ഭംഗിയല്ലാതെ സംസാരിക്കുന്നതു" എന്നാവാം.

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. ബി. സേലം.—ഇവിടെ ആരാണ് ചീത്ത പറയുന്നതു്?

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കൃഷ്ണമേനോൻ.—എന്തായാലും വിദ്വാന്മാർ ഒരു മാതിരി കുറഞ്ഞാൽ കൌൺസിൽ ഒരുമാതിരി ഒക്കെ കഴിച്ചു കൂട്ടിക്കൊണ്ടു പോകാം. പലരും ഇവിടെ ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി സംസാരിച്ചിട്ടും യോജിച്ച അഭിപ്രായം ഒന്നും കാണാറില്ല. പല വിഷയങ്ങളും ആലോചിക്കേണ്ടതും ഉണ്ടു്. അതിനാൽ വേറെ വിഷയത്തിലേക്കു കടക്കുന്നതാണു് തല്ക്കാലം നല്ലതു്.

പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു്.—ഇതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചുള്ള സംഗതികൾ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ പെടുത്തി വേണ്ടതു ചെയ്യാം. മോഷൻ വോട്ടിനിടണമോ പിൻവലിക്കുന്നോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കറുപ്പൻ.—വോട്ടിനിടണമെന്നില്ല.

Mr. A. B. Salem. We have not heard the Government's view.

President.—Government will consider all points. I do not find a consensus of opinion in a matter like this. So many aspects have been presented, and all these may be considered. But sending some man to study these things strikes me to be reasonable, so that we may see how it works. This one thing I should consider.

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—Of course, that proposal was made in this Council by the Revenue Member. But the Council

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was not pleased to accept the proposal. The Council, on the other hand, accepted the resolution to appoint a special officer to investigate these fishery matters. They did not accept this proposal of sending a man for training.

President.—How do you know it?

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—There is the Council Proceedings.

President.—How does that veto the position that a Valan may be sent with a scholarship to study about these matters?

Mr. P. Damodara Menon —They could have withdrawn the motion on that assurance. An assurance was held out, but they did not do it. So Government are considering as to what they should do in that matter.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—We are dealing with another proposition altogether.

President.—The motion has been under consideration. I may take the leave of the House whether Mr. Karuppan may be allowed to withdraw his motion. The question before the House is whether Mr. Karuppan has the leave of the House to withdraw his motion.

The motion to withdraw was put to the vote of the House and carried.

Motions Nos. 3 & 4.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 52,547 for "Tahsildars' establishment" by Rs. 1,764.*

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 52,547 for "Irrigation staff" by one rupee.*

The above motions were not moved.

Motion No. 5.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 86,838 for "Village establishment" by one rupee.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sir, I thank the Hon'ble Member for Revenue for having satisfied me with regard to the appointments, etc., in the department. I only want to know what has been done to the Pulayas in particular during the last year, and whether any land has been assigned to them in any of the villages, and what has been done for the amelioration of the condition of these people, to improve their straitened and most difficult circumstances, as the Government put it in the 1100 budget session proceedings.

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—The only thing that the Land Revenue Department can do is to give them some land, if they apply to us. All those who applied for land were given.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I know in how many cases they were given?

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Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—Only two weeks ago I gave lands to 20 people.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I thank you. I do not press my motion.

Motion No. 6.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 1,76,324 under "Demand No. I A" by one rupee.*

Mr. M. K. Raman.—I have tabled this token motion for the purpose of requesting the Government to assign lands, now lying idle, to the backward and depressed classes. If the land value has to be paid at all, it may be collected in instalments of easy terms. Of course, I need not tell you, Sir, that a large majority of the so-called depressed and backward classes have no lands of their own, and they are mostly dependents under Jenmies, who belong to other castes.

President.—You have in view those lands that were excluded from forest, and your request is that these lands may be assigned.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Yes, they are the ones I have particularly in view now, and in addition to that, there are also *poramboke* lands lying here and there, which have not been assigned to anybody.

President.—We have got a lot of grazing grounds.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—There are some which are not now used as grazing grounds, and recently we were having large tracks excluded from the Reserve Forests. My request is that these lands which are excluded from the Reserve Forests and the *poramboke* lands which are now with the Revenue Department and which are not made use of, may be assigned to the members of the backward and depressed classes. Of course, my request will be that, whenever Government finds that the applicant is a poor man, it should assign to him small tracts free of cost. But if the Government thinks that land value is absolutely necessary, as in the case of some people who are in a better position, it may be collected in easy terms in instalments. There is a rule in the Land Revenue Department that lands will be assigned only to the next land owner, and others will get only, if the adjacent owner says that he does not want it. This condition will work hardship in the case of poor people. If this condition is insisted upon, members of the backward classes will get no land at all. So my request is that that rule may be held not to be applicable, so far as the backward and depressed classes are concerned. Then, again, this is a step which will solve a big problem — the problem of unemployment, the problem of

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finance in our country and the problem of producing enough food stuffs. There will be enough food materials in our State for our use. A great deal of waste lands, which are now lying idle, can be brought under cultivation also, and the condition of these depressed and backward communities can thus be made better. Every one gains and no body loses anything at all by this.

President.—What is the way in which preference can be shown? What we generally do is, after demarcation of a piece of land, we fix a certain land value for it, and when we receive applications for it, we grant it. That is the procedure we are now following. In some cases where there is keen competition with regard to certain lands which are available for assessment, you say that preference must be given to the depressed and backward communities. Is that what you say?

Mr. M. K. Raman.—In the case of a very poor man, if the Government puts up a value, he may not be able to pay it. So what I say is that in such cases Government should extend some concession. Of course, Government should give land free only in deserving cases, and if the Government thinks that value is necessary, some value may be put upon it, and the same may be collected from them in instalments and on easy terms.

President.—The proper thing to do would be that the lands that could be assigned should be demarcated, and certain portions of the same should be reserved for assignment to the depressed and backward communities, because, when we notify that such and such lands are available for assessment, we are to be guided by certain principles. So unless we reserve a portion for the backward and depressed classes for the purpose of improving their economic condition, I do not think it can be brought into actual practice.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Sir, if you reserve a particular portion like that, I am afraid, it would be a sort of segregation of the depressed classes.

President.—We won't reserve a particular portion alone for the depressed and backward communities. There will be no such exclusiveness to send them to particular places. That will not be found to be feasible. Now, we will find out in what all places lands are available for assessment, reserve them for these people, so that they may be treated on favourable terms. And in regard to those lands the Revenue Member will be asked not to insist on such rigorous conditions being satisfied as those imposed in the case of other lands.

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—Some may be reserved for the depressed classes alone. There may be rich men among the backward classes.

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Mr. M. K. Raman.—Sir, it is an admitted fact that the large majority of the backward classes are poor. Very few people there are among the Ezhuvas who are rich. In such cases, Government may use their discretion.

President.—There are very rich Ezhuvas in the Chittur Taluk. You can very well ask the members who come from that taluk. Those Ezhuvas are in very affluent circumstances.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Rich and affluent people are more in the other castes.

President.—In one generation one family appears to be rich, and in another generation that family may go down. That is a feature common to all communities. But in the depressed classes some consideration has to be shown to them, as they are a set of people, who, by their own efforts, cannot rise. They want outward help. There are innumerable difficulties in their way. I can understand all that in the case of the depressed classes.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—My submission is that the same consideration should be shown to the backward classes also. Their financial position is no better.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—Sir, I have very great pleasure in supporting this motion. I know that Government is in full sympathy with the suggestion made by the Hon'ble Member. But I only wish to call the attention of Government to the proceedings that have been adopted in this matter by the Mysore Government last month, at the suggestion of the Co-operative Registrar. Government accepted the idea of helping the really indigent among the depressed classes, who are called Adi-Dravidas, and the proposal is to form co-operative agricultural societies with a minimum of 20 members constituted of 20 families, and the understanding is that lands measuring from 6 to 8 acres should be assigned to each member, and Government should, through the co-operative societies, advance a minimum loan of Rs. 80 to each member for the purchase of bullocks. In regard to the purchase of implements, manure, seed, fodder, etc., a loan of Rs. 20 will be advanced to each member. For the first year a sum of Rs. 10 is also advanced to each member for the maintenance of his family. Half of the amounts advanced to each member are written off, i.e., Government makes a free gift of half the amount, and the remaining amount is realised in instalments during 5 or 6 years. The land will be with the member for a period of at least ten years, being made inalienable. Upon these main principles the Co-operative Registrar of Mysore recommended

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that lands at the disposal of Government may be assigned to the really indigent among the Adi-Dravidas. Here also, the suggestion that the really indigent among the depressed classes should be given free assignments of land should be accepted, and upon that principle I request Government may be pleased to assign away all available lands at its disposal, whether they are disafforested lands, lands at the disposal of Government, or lands which have been set apart as grazing grounds but have become useless for that purpose. That would be the best way to solve this problem. Make them all landlords. That is, I think, a practical solution worthy of being adopted here.

President.—Mr. Damodara Menon, please say how Government can act in this matter.

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—We have additional lands at Narakkal and about 200 or 300 acres of land at Malayattur, and in some other taluks also we will have lands; and we can reserve all these lands for the depressed classes. But with regard to the backward classes, I cannot hold out any such hopes.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—With regard to the deserving people among the backward classes, may I know what is the Government's view?

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—We will make some consideration with regard to the depressed classes. But with regard to the other poor people, I do not think we can confine ourselves to any particular community. We are morally bound to do so, with regard to the depressed classes.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—That is acceptable.

President.—You see, Mr. Raman, if there is a very poor Brahmin or a very poor Nayar, he will also have to be given something. Regarding depressed classes, we love them, and their case must be considered.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—I accept Government's proposals. I know, as a matter of fact, that most of the members of the depressed classes are poor. They will be benefited.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—He has accepted it.

The question whether Mr. M. K. Raman has the leave of the House to withdraw his motion was put to vote and carried.

Motions Nos. 7—9.

Mr. K. T. Mathew—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,76,324 for "establishment" by one rupee.*

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,800 for "lighting of caution posts" by one rupee.*

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,91,321 for "Revenue—total (votable)' by one rupee.*

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President.—Then, motion No. 7. Mr. Mathew is absent. No. 8 Mr. C. A. Ouseph. He is also absent. Then, motion No. 9, standing in the name of Mr. A. Eachara Menon.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—I have tabled this motion to bring to the kind consideration of the Government the iniquitous and illegal impost—the water-cess—in the Chittur Taluk.

Sir, full property in the soil was conferred upon *Pandaravaka Verumpattam* and *Kanom* holdings, and the Settlement was made current for a period of 30 years during which *the assessment was not to be enhanced or interference of any kind permitted for any reason whatsoever.* Is it not thus clear, Sir, that, whatever we may do with the property, the Government is not to interfere, unless the work is such as to bring damage to the estate? But, Sir, the executive is sorry for the grant by His Highness to his beloved subjects to deal with the property as they choose. They have made rules to nullify the effect of the benevolence of His Highness. The holders of the lands have to take the permission of the local authorities before reclamations are made. They have to execute a *kychit* undertaking to pay a cess whether they get water or no. Sir, for making improvements in the lands to try to get something more out of it, they are harrassed by a cess. What does His Highness proclaim? His Highness has abolished all kinds of cesses that they may not worry His Highness' beloved subjects. But those who are entrusted with the management of our destinies are ever on the alert to impose fresh burden by a quibble on the words. They say that only new assessment or increment in assessment is prohibited. This is water cess for the use you make of water. I here again call the attention of the House to the fact that we have to pay even if we do not get water. Let us see how far they are justified in imposing this cess. The lands are put under three heads, (1) wet area, (2) dry area (3) garden area. Wet area comprises lands whose sole supply of water is rain, and irrigation is only an adjunct. Dry area where the cultivation is mainly by the help of irrigation, and rain water is only subsidiary, and garden area is only for raising food crops. The major portion of the lands in Chittur which have the benefit of irrigation form the wet area. There the cultivation is impossible without rain water, for the reason that the source of supply for irrigation is not perennial. The irrigation water is thus only supplementary.

The dry area is not available in the State, for without rain there cannot be any cultivation here. The garden area is where food crops other than paddy are grown.

Nowhere in India, say, for that matter, in the world, is it known that a water cess above the assessment is imposed on

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lands under the wet area. I do remember that this aspect was well before the Settlement authorities When they found that the income from Chittur did not come up to their expectation, with all kinds of manipulation, the Settlement Assistant, the present permanent Diwan Peishkar, proposed a water cess for Chittur. The Diwan Mr. Pattabirama Rao very nearly accepted the proposal. But the Settlement Officer, the late Mr. Raman Menon, V. K.—may his memory live long—considered it unsound, but was unable to oppose it for want of any literature on the point. It was at this juncture that *the All-India Irrigation Report* was published. He lost no time in getting down the volumes, and he found, on going through the Report, that it was unjust to impose a water cess over the assessment in the wet area. Thus were saved the people of Chittur from a special imposition. But do not think that we get the irrigation water for nothing. The lands under irrigation, when settled, were classified in a *taram* (group) higher than that in which such *niloms* were put elsewhere. Hence you will be pleased to find, Sir, that this impost of water cess is iniquitous and illegal.

There is another point to be considered in this respect. By raising the *taram* we had to pay only about Rs. 2½ more per acre. We have to pay a water cess of Rs. 5 for single crop and Rs. 7-8-0 for double crop lands now per acre. If the lands are assessed as per the Settlement rules, we will not have to pay more. In the British parts, where they benefit by our irrigation, they need pay only Rs. 5 per acre, regardless of the number of crops they raise. Look at, Sir, the travesty of fate for being the beloved and loyal subjects of His Highness the Maharaja of Cochin!

Thus you will be pleased to find, Sir, that the cess which His Highness considered harrassing and distressing and obnoxious and hence abolished has been brought into existence most unjustifiably in another form. The benefits of His Highness' Proclamation have thereby been snatched away from His Highness' loyal, law-abiding and beloved subjects, and an iniquitous illegal impost unknown to humanity has been brought into existence.

Therefore, I request you, Sir, to give your earnest consideration to this matter and right the wrong done to us.

President.—What is the rate of cess for British lands for which we give water?

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Rs. 5 and 7-8-0 is collected from us.

President.—That is for new reclamation lands.

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Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Rs. 5 for single crop and 7·8·0 for double crop lands.

President.—But there they will have to pay Land Revenue separately.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—We also pay Land Revenue separately.

President.—Not for settled lands; only for new reclamations.

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—There, in British India, they have to pay water-cess at the rate of Rs. 5, besides the usual Land Revenue.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Here also the same is the case.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—But they are better served in British India.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—And that is at our sacrifice

President.—What is the total Land Revenue paid in British India, including the water cess.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I don't know. It depends upon the classification of lands. Most probably, it may come to the same amount. That is all I can say.

President.—Now, your point is, that we should not give water to those British lands?

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—You should not give. That is my object.

President.—Alright. We have to supply water to the lands brought under the settlement, and now that we have to supply water free to these new reclamations, it will become a very difficult matter.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—We have executed *kychits* to the effect that we would pay the cess even if we did not get water. That is the *kychit* that is taken from us. We have to pay the cess even though we do not get water.

President.—Even in respect of these new conversions?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Water or no water, this cess must be paid. Of course, Government will do its best to give water Even if it does not succeed in doing so, the people have no right to say " we did not get water; you are not entitled to levy the cess".

President.—But there may be cases subject to revision.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—That is left to the Government, but the party is compelled to pay, whether he gets his harvest or loses it.

Similarly, in the case of British lands, for which water is supplied, they ought to pay a cess. When they entered into an agreement with the Government, Government made a provision;

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"we are not bound to give water to new lands, because we can only give water after supplying for old ones". Therefore, they made the proviso "we will try all our best to give water. In case we do not succeed, you must pay the cess. That is the position.

President.—That is very hard. But on calculation, have you to pay more tax than the British people?

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—The amount collected is Rs. 11—8—0 per acre, of which Rs. 7—8—0 is the normal Land Revenue and Rs. 4 is the water cess.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—They never call it a cess. It is Land Revenue.

President.—Here also we can adopt that and avoid this water cess.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—On a point of information. Where no *kychit* has been taken, will you levy any fresh amount, supposing a *paramba* is converted into a *nilom*?

President.—Of course, you can convert a *paramba* into a *nilom*, but the question is whether you will be entitled to get water.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Even then, you will have to pay the ordinary assessment.

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—Of course, if you take water, you will be penalised.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—That will be taken into account after the next Settlement.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I want to know whether there is any prohibition against the owner of a *paramba* converting it into a *nilom* and cultivating it without paying water cess.

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—There is no prohibition. For the supply of water he should execute a *kychit*, and then, there is a prescribed form for that as per aticle 277, and it has to be registered too.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Suppose there is a case in which there was no *kychit*. Do you raise any penal assessment for such conversion?

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—If it is found that Sirkar water has been used, it will be penalised.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Even for percolation water?

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—Yes. They are bound to pay penal assessment. Even if a *kychit* is not executed, separate water cess is levied for percolation water too.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I submit it is not correct.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—That is one of the complaints of the Chittur landlords. Under the term of Settlement Proclamation, section 26, you cannot levy a cess.

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President.—No doubt, there is some hardship.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—So now, Government puts a block in the way of reclamation of lands and increasing arable land. It comes to that.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—In short, according to the Settlement Proclamation, there should be no interference of any kind, for a period of 30 years after the Settlement. This is the wording of that section; "To secure to Our land-holders, the utmost freedom of action in improving their properties and turning them to the best advantage according to their means and inclination, We hereby declare that the new Settement shall be current for a term of 30 years. During this period, the assessment shall not, in any way, be enhanced on the ground that *Payattupattam paramba* has been converted into *nilom* or has been planted with taxable trees or that *nilom* has been converted into *paramba* or that more trees have been planted than those already assessed. No interference of any kind will be permitted with the new Settlement for the next 30 years".

President.—This levy of water cess, according to you, is against the provision made in the Settlement Proclamation. Has it ever been taken to court?

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I am not aware. I quite understand that Government is not liable to supply water, and they can refuse supply, but, when there is only percolation water, to levy penal assessment is very hard.

President.—Has this matter ever been taken to a court of law? Is it not worth while?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Even if there is a breach of law, since it is against the Government, the landlords are diffident.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—This is one of the complaints the landlords in my constituency have brought to my notice. This does not come under Land Revenue, and this is illegal according to the Proclamation.

President.—If it is taken to a court of law, the court will at once say it is illegal. Why is it not taken to court?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Most probably, because it goes against the Government. The Settlement Peishkar might one day or other become a judge. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—To the best of my recollection, when such a case was taken to a court of law (not here, in British India), they have legalised it, and they have given some force to it.

President.—They have legalised what is illegal.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—If it is a *poramboke* converted into a *nilom*; *poramboke* assessmentt is levied, and if it is by

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means of irrigation water that it has been so converted either by natural flow or by percolation, the water cess will be levied, and the original tax will not be interfered with.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—As it is, suppose a man says : "I do not want your water. My land is there. You take away the water, and I refuse to pay. I don't want your water, and I don't want to get the benefit". What can you do for that ?

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Those lands cannot be assessed at the high rate of 7½ rupees, if it were assessed according to the Settlement.

President.—When did the present rule come into force?

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—Along with the Settlement, by supplement.

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—Sometimes, during monsoon time, excess water is let out and ryots are not allowed to use the water that is allowed to flow into the river, for the purpose of cultivation. At Malayattur there is such a complaint.

President.—I do not think there is any instance like that. Anybody can make use of this excess water.

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—I have sent a question also with regard to that.

President.—I visited that place a few months ago. I saw many tenants, and their complaint was really this. If the *chira* there is restored to proper condition by making it sufficiently high, there will be enough water for working a large extent of land, and they say that the Government is not doing that, and that they are not given water from the *chira* for the reason that their landsare not inside the anicut. These are the complaints.

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—I think that the subordinate officers have misunderstood the rules and think that the excess water during monsoon time cannot be given for use without a cess.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—I want the Government to consider all these; that is all I want.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—With regard to the rate also, the matter may be considered again. In British India the rate is only Rs. 4 in the case of old lands; whereas here it is Rs. 7½.

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—We levy the rate of 7½ rupees, only for double crop lands. For single crop lands the rate is only Rs. 5.

President.—What is the total amount under new conversions ?

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—The total amount for the current year comes to 3,000 and odd rupees.

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Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—In answer to a question the amount was stated to be about Rs. 5,000.

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—That is for the last year. I said about this year. Reclamation is going on.

Motions Nos. 10 and 11.

Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 2,25,100 under "Demand No. I" by Rs. 100.*

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs.2,25,100 under "Demand No. I" by one rupee.*

President.—Then, Motion No. 10. Mr. Poulo Mampilli is absent. Motion No. 11, Mr. Ouseph.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Before I move, may I know, Sir, the extent of Government lands assigned to private persons in 1101 and 1102?

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—I am not able to say that now.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—May I know what is the extent of land proposed to be assigned of which reference is made in the memorandum, explaining the details of the budget, page 2?

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—It is not possible to say now without working at the figures.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Sir, my object in moving this reduction motion is to draw the attention of the House to the fact that large tracts of Government land are assigned year after year either to private persons or to large companies. It is a known fact that, the supply of rice, which we can have in this State, is insufficient. As far as I know, the only statement available regarding the quantity of rice that is produced in the State is in a report submitted by the Superintendent of Agriculture, in 1917, in connection with the question of tenancies in the State. There he has stated that the paddy produced in the State is not sufficient to meet the requirements of the people of the State for 5 months in the year. So that, Sir, it should be the policy of the State to see that as much land as possible is utilised for agricultural purposes, especially for paddy cultivation. But there is a complaint that it is very difficult for people to get lands leased out to them, and powerful combinations such as the Moopley Valley Rubber Co. are having lands assigned to them. These lands assigned to them are generally used for rubber or tea plantations. They themselves may be productive enterprises, but paddy should be our first concern. Further, the people of the State have a claim on the Government to have those lands assigned to them in the first instance. Therefore, before assignment of large tracts are made, notifications should be published

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in the Gazette, so that those who are willing, may come and bid. In the case of lands assigned to the Moopley Valley Rubber Co. no notification has been published before assignment. If notifications are published. I assure the Government that there will be many to come forward, and lands can be assigned to the people of the State itself. This matter of assignment has been brought to the notice of the Government by a series of questions sent by me and other Members of the House, but so far, the policy pursued by the Government does not seem to have changed. Of course, there is a practice for the Government to give the first option to the neighbouring land-owner. That leaves out of the category of possible assignees all those persons who are poor. As the Member for the Ezhuvas south remarked, if you want to encourage, depressed classes and persons who take to agriculture, you must assign these lands to them and not give the option of purchase to powerful land-lords who already own very large tracts. It is just to call the attention of the House to this that I tabled this motion. I don't press it.

May I know what is the acreage proposed to be assigned to the Moopley Valley Rubber Co.?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—403 acres.

President.—And nobody would go in for such lands.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—Who says that nobody would go in for such lands? The extent of land we have for cultivation is very little, and if you want further land, you must go in for forest exploitation and backwater reclamation. The percentage of increase of population in the State is becoming greater and greater every day, and if you go on assigning lands to foreigners, how are we to get on? I would protest against any such land being assigned to foreigners under any circumstances.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—I myself have seen some of these estates, for example, Mooply Estate. There we have some of the best lands suitable for paddy cultivation. In these estates in the upper portion, rubber can be planted, and in the lower portion paddy can be cultivated.

President.—Suppose we put in notifications in the Gazette.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—If our persons are not enterprising to come forward and take it, it must be given away to foreigners.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—Preference should be given to our people. We must give them time.

President.—Notifications were put up regarding Nelliyampaties. There was no response at all from the people.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—The road was not constructed then. We cannot compete with the Europeans in these matters.

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In the State we are considering about the condition of the depressed classes, but in the world's economic field, we are the depressed classes. We want protection. Lands belonging to our State will have to be improved ; have the roads constructed, and then notify for the present that only Cochinites can bid. Further consideration can be had later on.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Just now the idea of rubber planting has got into the hearts of the sons of the soil, and many are in search of suitable plots. They will be prepared to take plots even in the Nelliyampaties, as now a road is proposed to be constructed by the Government.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—When Europeans call for the construction of roads, you are very willing, whereas, when natives call for, you show indifference, and that is one of the causes why we are not pushing on plantations.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—The point is, we want every inch of *poramboke* land for agrarian purposes for ourselves. (*Hear, hear.*) Government cannot gain much by granting lands to foreigners who come in to purchase lands.

Motions Nos. 12 and 13.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 1,91,321 under "Demand No. I" by one rupee.*

Mr. K. Sankaran Nambudiri.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,25,100 under "Demand No. I" by Rs. 100.*

President.—Cut Motion No. 12, Mr. M. K. Raman.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—I do not move.

President.—Motion No. 13, Mr K. Sankaran Nambudiri.

Mr. K. Sankaran Nambudiri.—I do not move.

President.—The question before the House is whether "Demand No.1.—Land Revenue"—Rs. 1,91,321 be passed by the House.

The Demand was put to vote and carried.

Demand No. II—Agriculture and Panchayats.

Rs. 2,80,427.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Sir, I beg to move for a grant of Rs. 71,601 for Agriculture, Rs. 9,140 for Avenues, Rs. 1,85,088 for Panchayats and Rs. 14,560 for Veterinary, the votable portions of the allotments for the Department of Agriculture and Panchayats for the year 1103.

The allotment of Rs. 71,601 represents, as you will be pleased to see from the details given in the budget, the cost of my Office establishment—Rs. 4,202, Rs. 7,239, for the field staff, Rs. 10,041 for allowances, supplies, services, etc., Rs. 12,979—the cost of farm establishment, Rs. 23,900 for the working expenses of the Central Farm, Rs. 40, for rent on a building hired

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for a manure depot at Irinjalakkuda, Rs. 600, for cattle-breeding, Rs. 5,000, for holding exhibitions, and Rs. 6,091 for expenses in the cocoanut station.

Item No. 23. The field staff may require some explanation. It is the sanctioned strength that is shown in Column 4. We have not yet reached the full strength of the department as a few men intended for the department are now undergoing training in the Poona Agricultural College. This factwas explained in the Council during the last budget session.

Most of the items under allowances, supplies, services, etc., do not call for any explanation. The provision of Rs. 750 under temporary establishment is on account of the staff employed for checking the spread of the Cocoanut Pest "Nephantis Serinopa". The provision of Rs. 3,100 comprises the following items :—

	Rs.
Stipend for 2 scholars undergoing training in the Poona Agricultural College	735
Travelling allowance for the above scholars	200
Farm Prizes	50
Demonstrations	2,000
Office miscellaneous	115

Under 'Farm operations', the items do not call for any special remarks. Rs. 200 provided for the purchase of cattle is for paying the cost of a bullock and 2 buffaloes purchased from the Potteries. The provision of Rs. 2,700 under 'Farm Miscellaneous' is for the following :—

	Rs.
Repair of roads	300
Fencing works	400
Repairs to boundary walls	150
Purchase and repair of vessels	200
Lighting charges	150
Conveyance charges	300
Silt clearing of tanks and wells	300
Irrigation appliances	200
Works in cattle stall	200
Tobacco experiment	500
	2,700

The several items of works done in the Central Farm are in accordance with Government orders dated 7th February 1917 C. No. 435/90, full details of which were placed before the Council during the last budget session. I do not wish, therefore, to tire your patience by explaining them to you again. A few of the important items of works in connection with dairying, soil survey, agricultural school, etc., could not be taken up for want of funds.

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I have, on more occasionsthan one, pointed out to you that an experimental station cannot be run with profit. For the sake of convenience and for effective supervision, a number of important items or works such as experiment with crops, manurial experiments on staple crops of the State, dairying, stock-breeding, horticulture, agricultural school, are being done at the same Farm. This makes a casual observer of the statement of expenditure to suspect that the expenditure is unduly heavy. If, for instance, we are having separate stations for these several items of work, you would be spending more money on establishment and supervision with perhaps less control. I can assure this House that the amount we are now spending is much less than that spent in other provinces. We are now at a stage of development when a large amount of money has to be spent towards capital expenditure.

There is a provision of Rs. 5,000 for exhibition. The last State Exhibition was held in 1092. Grants for a few rural exhibitions were also given in the subsequent years. I am sure the House will agree with me. when I say, that exhibitions will give a a great impetus to agriculture and industries in the State. Opinions have been expressed from some quarters that exhibitions in taluks will be more useful than a State Exhibition in one place in the State. This subject will be carefully considered.

Cocoanut Station.

The amount provided for the cocoanut station is Rs. 6,091 in 1103 against Rs. 2,699 in the current year. The provision of Rs. 5,025 is for the following works:—

	Rs.
Casual labour	300
Cattle food	300
Manure	325
Fencing	100
	1,025

Special works.

	Rs.
Compound wall in front of the estate and a gate	1,160
Revetment wall and groynes	1,243
Levelling and filling up	1,475
Opening drains	95
Sundries	27
	4,000

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The special works for which provision has been proposed came up for the consideration of the Government last time, but they were postponed for want of funds. These works, especially the work of the revetment wall and groynes, is urgent. A portion of the estate has yet to be improved and planted. The sooner the work is attended to, the better. The wall and gate are proposed to be put up on the western side of the estate, facing the main road, to give the estate some protection from trespass and also to give the whole place a decent appearance.

The necessity for a cocoanut station has been explained in this House on previous occasions. I do not, therefore, propose to repeat it again.

The amount proposed for "Avenues" is Rs. 9,140. Rs. 1,020 is the cost of establishment, Rs. 120 for travelling allowance and Rs.8,000 for other charges, full details of which are the following:—

Weeding charges	Rs. 2,000
Hoeing and earthing up	800
Fencing	3,300
Manure	200
Implements	100
Renumbering	100
New-plantings and filling up gaps	1,500
Miscellaneous, such as repairs to cycles, cost of removing windfallen banches, etc.	200
Total	Rs. 8,000

Village Panchayats.

The demand on this account is Rs. 1,85,088. This comprises the following items.—

Establishment charges	Rs. 10,346
Irrigation	19,439
Sanitation and Conservancy	15,503
Communications	71,191
Water supply	52,957
Water *pandals*	4,888
Ayurvedic dispensaries	10,554
Maintenance of avenues	60
Travelling allowance	150

You will notice substantial increase in almost all the items.

The following statement gives full details of expenditure incurred on account of Minor Irrigation during the 5 years ending with 1102.—

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1098	Rs.	13,602
1099		11,209
1100		19,338
1101		12,090
1102		17,993

A provision of Rs. 19,439 has been made for next year. The amount usually spent for the annual maintenance of irrigation works is between 5 and 6 thousand rupees. The provision of rupees eleven thousand andodd is for the repair or reconstruction of *chiras*.

The Veterinary Department.

The increase in the expenditure is on account of the appoinment of two Assistant Veterinary Inspectors and their staff. This House is already aware of the representations made for opening Veterinary Dispensaries at Nemmara and Kunnamkulam. Till recently, we had no full-timed officers for these dispensaries.

I have explained the salient features of the budget wherever explanation is necessary.

In regard to certain observations made by the Hon'ble Members in their general discussion of the budget, I wish to speak a few words by way of reply.

The Hon'ble Members for Chalakkudi and Nellayi have not been able to see anything good in the working of the Agricultural Department. I am sure, if they take some real interest in agricultural matters, they will be able to appreciate the work of this department. The Hon'ble Member for Nellayi has made a suggestion to make allotments non-lapsable. This matter is being considered by the Government. The Hon'ble Member for Irinjalakkuda has made certain suggestions about the working of the Panchayats and placing these bodies under Taluk Boards. To questions put by Hon'ble Members in regard to the separation of the Panchayat, Government have already given answers. The subject, I understand, is engaging the attention of the Special Finance Committee, and as such, I do not think any further remarks are necessary just now.

The Hon'ble Member for Vellarappalli made certain observations about the Manapat *Chira* in the Malayattur village. The investigation made by the P. W. Department shows the bund cannot be raised to any appreciable height. If the level of the water is raised, lands situated within the *chira* will be affected. My enquiries show that the people owning lands within the *chira* object to the raising of the bund. With a view to remove all difficulties, I am investigating into another irrigation project at a place called Inchakundu. If water is stored at

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Inchakundu, I believe, it will be some sort of feeder—reservoir to Manapat *Chira*. The investigation in this matter is not complete.

The questions of the property qualifications of the members of Panchayats is being considered by the Government. I may state for the information of this House that there is a lot of difference of opinion amongst the Panchayatdars.

With these few observations, I conclude my speech and appeal to the House for the grant asked for.

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—May I know how many acres of cultivated lands would be affected?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—About 20 or 25 acres.

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—Is there any objection to acquire that?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The owners of the lands have objected.

President.—If the other project is feasible, water may be reserved at Inchakundu.

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—Thus, investigation after investigation takes years.

President.—If the present generation will not succeed, our succeeding generation will succeed. We should not want everything for ourselves.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—Was there any sale of manure on a substantial scale last year, and what is the amount realised by its sale?

President.—You stock manure, and then, I suppose you allow people to purchase from your depot. From your books can you say how much was sold last year?

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—Seven rupees is expected this year; none last year.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—We sell manure to outside people.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—May I know how much, roughly?

President.—Don't you know the amount obtained by the sale?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—They are credited back to Advances Repayable in the accounts.

President.—There is something in what he says. There are Advances Repayable. Out of the Advances Repayable the manure is purchased. When sold, they are credited to Advances Repayable.

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Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—We want just to ascertain how much the people are appreciating the usefulness of the manure.

President.—Are you not selling in large quantities ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The quantity of manure sold is shown in statement No. 14 of the *Annual Report of the Agricultural Department.*

President.—Have you got the total for all these ? Why not you total ?

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—May I know whether there has been a larger demand or a smaller one, or whether it is more or less the same?

Mr. I. Raman Menon—.It is gradually increasing.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—We have no figures either in the budget or in the Administration Report.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—Are these manures taken to the village for sale, or sold only at the depots at Trichur and Ernakulam ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Some people from the rural areas are coming up to purchase.

President.—Do you also take them to the villages ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Our Inspectors go to the villages, advise them, and it is on their advice that these villagers come to purchase.

President.—Are any of the manures taken to the villages from your depot ?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—In Chittur, I think, there is no manure depot.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—May I know whether the demand made this year for levelling charges of the cocoanut station would complete all the levelling charges of that estate?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Yes.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—May I know roughly the value of the cattle in the Central Farm ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Ten to fifteen thousand rupees.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Page 22. There is a provision of Rs. 300 every year for the purchase of books. I should like to know for what it is.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—For the library. It is in my office.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Can it be used by the public?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The library is open to the public. I have already published a notification some years ago to that effect.

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Dr. A. R. Menon.— Did you establish any demonstration farms in any taluk after the last budget session ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—No.

Dr. A. R Menon.—Alright.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—May I know the approximate area under paddy cultivation in the Farm ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Forty to 50 acres in, the first, i. e., *Virippu* and about 12 acres *Mundakan*.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—Do you not stock seeds in the Farm ?

Mr. I Raman Menon.— Yes.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—So, it is in addition to the seeds stocked in the Farm that Rs. 1,800 is provided in the budget.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—We have to pay for them.

President.—Is it shown on the receipt side ?

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—It is not on the receipt side.

President.—Please show that.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—Page 3, Agriculture Proper—Receipts on account of seeds and manure depots. There is no receipt under 'seeds'.

President.—Is there any receipt under grain ?

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—Under 'grain', there is Rs. 14,000. Under 'receipts' on account of seeds, we don't get anything. So I ask you this question.

President.—The grain it is that becomes the seed; which is the seed that you are referring to here ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—All sorts of seeds—paddy, pulses, vegetables, rubber seeds, coffee seeds, etc.

President.—Paddy seed will really come under 'grain'.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—So this Rs. 1,800 does not include the paddy seed.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—A portion of it will include.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—It is not for the purchase of paddy. It is only for paper adjustment.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know what is the total expenditure on the cocoanut station ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Over Rs. 80,000.

President.—It exceeds Rs. 80,000.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—It comes to about a lakh.

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—I find there are two demonstrators referred to among the officers. What is the work of these demonstrators ?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—No demonstration at all.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—To demonstrate our folly.

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President.—Do they correspond to the demonstrators in the College ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—They are in charge of field work in the Farm. The ordinary maistries are not fit for this sort of work.

President.—They are all field-men, not like the demonstrators of the College.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Is there anything as a model in the cocoanut station which is not found in the ordinary gardens ?

President.—What varieties of cocoanut are there in the cocoanut station other than those that are here ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—We have some varieties imported from outside—Ceylon, Federated Malaya States,etc. We have also a good many of the varieties that are found on the West Coasts.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Are these varieties not in the Central Farm ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Some of them.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Why is there no increase in the income ?

President.—Three years hence, we will be more than self-supporting.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—What was the object for which this site was acquired ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—It was originally acquired for a poorhouse, and that idea was abandoned.

At this stage the Council adjourned for lunch. It met again at 3. p. m.

President.—We shall begin with the consideration of the cut motions. No. 1, Mr. C. A. Ouseph.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Before moving it, I have to get some information. In the field staff I find two Minor Irrigation Overseers. May I know whether they are the men who check-measure the work done by the Panchayats ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Some works they check-measure. There are no other specialised officers in the department to supervise the work

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—May I know how the money that is set apart for avenues is utilised ? Is the money handed over to the Avenue Maistries or spent direct by the office ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Direct by the office , Sir.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Shall I move , Sir?

President.—Yes.

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Motion No. 1.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 8,132 for "A. Agriculture—Field Staff" by one rupee.*

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—I move for a reduction of Re. 1 in the allotment of Rs. 8,132 for Agriculture. It is the regret of the Hon'ble Member for Agriculture and Panchayats——to use the Members' own words—that the Member for Chalakkudi cannot find anything good anywhere in the department. I really sympathise with him. I may assure him that I have been trying my best to understand his position and to appreciate, as far as possible, the work that is being done by the Argicultural Department. But to my extreme regret I have failed to find any good therein. It seems to me, and I have said so in my budget discussion, that, as far as we have found it, it is a waste, and I do not find any reason to change my view. I may have erred, and if I have erred, I have done so in a large and good company The test by which the work of the Agricultural Department is to be measured is the propagation of the idea of the improvement of agriculture among the agriculturists in the State and the adoption by them of the methods advocated by the Agricultural Department. (*Hear, hear.*) No such data has hitherto been supplied to this Council, so that they may appreciate the work of the Agricultural Department. That is why, Sir, this time also you see members of this House complaining that the Agricultural Department is not doing its work properly. As regards the motion, Sir, these Minor Irrigation Overseers are not men with any appreciable qualifications.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—They are qualified.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—I said "*appreciable qualifications.*" The Panchayats are doing a lot of work, and they are doing even work costing even five or ten thousand rupees.

President.—They are not entrusted with the execution of works costing over Rs. 500. That is the maximum limit. The amount is allowed in a lump and the Panchayats spend it. In some special cases the Superintendent of Panchayats takes up the execution of the work himself.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Let it be done by any person, whether by the Panchayatdars or by the Superintendent himself. The Superintendent is not a man qualified under the *P. W. D. Code* to carry on these works; so that the only officers who are responsible in regard to these works are the two Minor Irrigation Overseers. I submit that they are not men sufficiently qualified to supervise the work.

President.—What is the qualification that they possess?

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Mr. I. Raman Menon.—One of them had training in the Engineering College, and the other had training in overseering at Trichinopoly.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—I shall refer to their qualifications. Mr. Sankara Subba Ayyar, Matric and draftsman test, and Mr. K. Gopala Menon, Southern Division, School Final and Lower Subordinate Engineering. Sir, similar works in the Public Works Department are supervised by a series of officers including the Chief Engineer himself. At least the Assistant Engineer will have to look to works over Rs. 1,000, and never will the work be entirely entrusted to the Overseers. But here we see these men, who are not better than Overseers, are put in independent charge of this work. There are works costing Rs. 5,000 or Rs. 10,000, and therefore, I say that better supervision must be had hereafter of the works carried on by the Panchayats. If possible, the Public Works Department may be made responsible for the preparation of the estimates and the check-measuring of these works. Admittedly, the Superintendent of Agriculture, is not a qualified man to check-measure these things. "Many a mickle makes a muckle." There are several works done by the Panchayat. You may leave alone works of Rs. 200 or Rs. 300.

President.—Some useful works are done by the Panchayats.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—With regard to irrigation, a lot of work is done by them. Especially in irrigation, when no engineering skill is used, it becomes useless. What I, therefore, plead for is better supervision must be had over the works done by the Panchayat. Then, with regard to the Avenues, year after year, Rs. 8,000 is spent. The department works directly through the Avenue maistries who get a salary of about Rs. 15 or so. There are the Agricultural Inspectors. Why can't the work be got done through them?

President.—They supervise and the Panchayat also has supervision. Are not the Panchayats given supervision?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Very few, Sir. The estimates are being checked, the work examined and the final accounts are received from the Inspectors. That is done just to avoid delay.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—That is all I have to say with regard to this motion. I don't want to press it to a division.

President.—Mr. Aravindaksha Menon, is there any co-ordination between your department and the Panchayat Department in regard to important works?

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Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I remember to have checked many estimates forwarded by the Panchayat Superintendent in connection with some important works. We check the estimates in our office, and then, send them back after careful scrutiny.

President.—In many cases, these estimates are submitted to the Public Works Department for checking. Supposing these estimates are checked in that manner, will there be any difficulty, if these men are entrusted with such responsible works? That is what I want to know. In the actual execution of the work many defects may be committed. The question is, whether these people are competent to check-measure all these works.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It is not enough if one man checks the work. It must be checked by two or three officers.

President.—We have only two or three Irrigation Overseers.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—In fact, if there is only one executive officer to check measure the work, that means his powers are supreme in that.

President.—You were also check-measuring the works.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Yes, Sir.

President.—But, are you qualified in the check-measuring?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—I know all the works.

President.—You ought to know something about these, Dr. A. R. Menon?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—In the case of Municipalities also, the same difficulty comes. When I was the Chairman of the Trichur Municipality, plans used to be prepared, and they were submitted for scrutiny. Either the Overseer is requested to make plans, and plans are prepared by him and submitted for my scrutiny. I make alterations, if necessary, and put my signature. When the work is undertaken, our Overseer supervises the work. Finally the check-measuring is conducted by the Municipal Chairman himself, who is absolutely ignorant about the subject. To be on the safe side, we generally call in the aid of the Assistant Engineer and nothing prevents us from doing that. Similarly also in the Medical Department.

President.—Do you find any difficulty in carrying on this check-measuring work?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Nothing, Sir. We know measurements. We measure the length, breadth, height, etc. We do it practically, and in fact, more correctly. We calculate by using these figures, and find out whether the work has been

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done correctly. Therefore, our check-measuring is in a way more satisfactory than the check-measuring of the Engineering Department.

President.—What is your experience, Dr. Verghese?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—It is for the first time that I hear a Medical Officer being asked to check-measure engineering works. When I had to do it, I had to study the rudiments of it. The length, thickness, height, etc., were taken, and they gave me the formula to work up the cubical contents. Having got the cubical contents of the well or tank, it was very easy to verify. It is only some slight experience that is required.

President.—The only thing is to see whether the work has been done in accordance with the estimates. Granting that proper estimates have been made when the work is not of a very serious nature, you have only to see whether the work has been executed in accordance with the estimates. The Assistant Engineer can solve the problem. He can say whether it is a correct estimate, and whether it is a practical one. That is done by the Public Works Department.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—But the final check-measuring is done by the Chairman in Municipalities.

President.—There is some rule in the Panchayat Regulation that the estimates for sanitary works over Rs. 1,000 ought to be sent to the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer—works like the digging of wells, tanks, etc.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—It is from a sanitary point of view that the estimates for the digging of wells, etc., are sent to the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.

President.—How far were these things taken up? I ask you, because you were engaged in the rural reconstruction scheme along with the Diwan Peishkar, and I have asked the Superintendent of Agriculture to put his head into the matter. Are not these suggestions likely to come up for consideration before you?

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—We have mentioned that in the report. I would make a suggestion. Estimates under a certain amount must be sent to the P. W. D. for scrutiny. Those works must be checked by the P. W. D. officers. But the first check-measuring must be done by the officers of the department itself, and the second check-measuring must be done by the P. W. D.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—This will only create some sort of unpleasantness between the Heads of Departments.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—In British India, very large works are executed by the Executive Engineer. But here, the supervising officer is the Overseer.

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Dr. A. G. Menon.—In British India they are done by Assistant Engineers.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—But in Cochin State they are done by Overseers.

President.—In the Mattancheri Municipality they have an Assistant Engineer, and in Trichur the Personal Assistant to the Chief Engineer.

Motion No. 3.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.— *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 23,900 for "A. 2, Farm Operations" by Rs. 5,000.*

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—This motion is tabled for the purpose of drawing the attention of the Government in the matter of demonstration farms, over which there was so much hue and cry in this House during the previous sessions of this Council. They are spending a lot of money upon one Central Farm, with no practical benefit to the people at large. If demonstration farms are opened in several taluks or in the several villages, that would be of much more value than this one Central Farm, upon which we are spending huge sums of money. Of course, I wanted to bring this to the notice of the Government. I do not mean to say that the amount spent on the Central Farm is not necessary. But what I want to bring to the notice of the House is that such a big sum is not calculated to do much good to the people at large. This motion is only intended for that. I do not move it.

President.—In convenient places you may take up the cultivation of some lands just to enable the people to understand how cultivation is to be carried on.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—We have no provision of funds for such works till the end of this year. There is, however, a provision of Rs. 2,000 for next year.

President.—Some actual demonstration will be carried one next year.

Motion No. 4.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 36,879 for "Farm Operations" by one rupee.*

Mr. K. T. Mathew being absent, his motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 5.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 36,879 for "Farm Operations" by one rupee.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I have tabled a cut motion, and I have asked for certain information on the back of the cut motion, and I am awaiting receipt of the same.

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Mr. A. B. Salem.—I have tabled this motion for the purpose of knowing what proved results in paddy cultivation have been made available for the ryots of the State this year. The Agricultural Department has been cultivating four kinds of paddy in 80¾ acres of land in the Farm, viz., (1) wet land paddy, (2) dry land paddy, (3) double-crop wet land paddy and (4) double-crop second crop wet land paddy. I do not know what that means. Vide page 1061 of the budget proceedings of last year. There is double crop, and there is double second crop. I do not know what that means. Yet, it is our duty to ask the department what proved results in paddy cultivation have been made available for general dissemination amidst the population of the State. We have got a right to ask, because you have been taking Rs. 8,000 every year, and we want to know what particular kinds of paddy are being cultivated, and whether they have placed any additional information for the benefit of the ryot population, whether experiments have been carried out, and how they have been made to be copied by the ryots, with the costs. Otherwise it is useless to make experiments. These experiments have at one time or other to cease to be experiments, and have to become applied science. The Hon'ble Member will have to bring concrete results for spending these large amounts of money. I want also to know what commercial results have been found out in anything cultivated in the Farm, and whether the results have been broad-casted, and what experiments have been carried out in staple products in dairy farms. This point was taken up by the Hon'ble Lady Member. She said, "If it is only to make butter and butter-milk, then this costly concern is not necessary". It has also to be known whether any demonstration has been carried out in any private lands, whereby the advantages of carrying out cultivation on farm lines over the old methods, have been brought home to the ryot, and what has been done by Government in the year in the matter of manures being made available for the people—any special scientific experiment that has been carried out may also be mentioned—and whether methods in each taluk have been adopted to demonstrate advantage of cultivation by the department to the ryot. It was your suggestion, Sir. I want an answer to all these things—whether all these things have been carried out—before this recurring demand is made. I want this information, before I can give my vote. There was a suggestion to take 5 acres of land for experimental purposes in each taluk or typical areas. The question of demonstration has not been handled properly by the department.

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The reply given here on page 1066 to a question from the Hon'ble Member for Jenmies is that the Member for Agriculture was to start demonstration farms, and that they have been introduced in several taluks. I cannot say whether we have got the requisite staff for it. Three of our Inspectors are under training, &c, &c. Now, I wish to know what the results are in some plantations in Kunnamkulam on private lands. These are the things that make us feel doubtful about the utility of the Agricultural Department as it is worked now. I do not say that agriculture is not wanted in our State. We want to study agriculture as well as pisciculture. We should also introduce intensive cultivation, as the population is pressing on the soil more and more. It is high time that we introduce this intensive cultivation. We want to find out whether any proved results in paddy cultivation have been made available by the department for the ryots of the State this year. These are certain things we want to know, and I gave ample notice of this. I have given more than 10 days' notice. I want this information, as I said, before I can give my vote.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—In regard to the work done by the department in connection with paddy cultivation, I would refer the Hon'ble Member to page 9 of my report on the working of this department.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What are the results obtained in connection with paddy cultivation in 1102? That is my question, and the Hon'ble Member refers me to the report of 1101. I do not want any elaborate report as the Hon'ble Member seems to think; I only want a report in simple plain language. Have the villagers been let known of the real nature of the experiments that have been conducted in the Farm with success, and if so, how?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—As far as possible, through lectures. It has not been possible to carry on demonstration, and we propose doing it next year. These Inspectors go about in villages and give lectures. We tried some experiments also in villages and told the people "You better do these things in this manner, etc., etc."

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—There are several teachers in several schools who have had some agricultural training.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sir, I have now put about eight questions, and may I request the Hon'ble Member for Agriculture to supply me with answers to them? I am only a man with a general knowledge, but he is an expert, and the answers to them must be at the tip of his fingers. He ought to enlighten us in no time.

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Mr. I. Raman Menon.—I have already told the Hon'ble Member that a full report of the work done by the Agricultural Department has already been communicated to all the Members. Regardig the figures of this year, I may say that I am not able to furnish them now. It must certainly take time. On page 13 of the Report, a complete list of the lectures given by my subordinates is given.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I have read that report, and it is from that report that I put these questions. It is very elaborate. I want to get pill answers. Sir, can he give them? What is given us now is something which we cannot swallow.

President.—Can you not yourself make pills out of that report? You may yourself do so.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—The department serves no useful purpose. We want to see the Government spending much more money in good work as is done in Japan and other places. In Japan every inch of land is made available for the purpose of cultivation. Not an inch will be seen lying idle even on private lands. Sir Frederick Nicholson told me that, when he got out of a house, he found only a very small piece of land not cultivated. All the remaining land was cultivated, and that on an intensive scale.

President.—Now, Mr. Salem, I can give you answers to your questions. Whether they are satisfactory answers or not, you may take them, because, you know, we cannot discuss these matters at length.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What proved results in paddy cultivation have been made available for the ryots of the State this year?

President.—Mr. Raman Menon, how are they made known to the ryots?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—By means of lectures, Sir.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What special experiments have been carried out, and how they have been made to be copied by the ryot, with the costs?

President.—What are they, Mr. Raman Menon?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Not much in that way, Sir.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What commercial results have been found out in anything cultivated in the Farm, and whether the results have been broadcasted. By "commercial" I mean "profitable".

President.—Mr. Raman Menon, any obtained?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—All this is given in that report.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What experiments have been carried out in staple products and in dairy farming?

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Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—Cattle manure will produce the best commercial result.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I want to know what experiments have been carried out in dairy farming.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—None, Sir.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Whether any demonstration has been carried out in any private lands whereby the advantages of carrying out cultivation on farm lines over the old methods have been brought home to the ryots?

President.—No funds.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What has been done by Government in the year in the matter of manures being made available for the people?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—People used to go and purchase manures.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I know the sale proceeds of manure?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Not available.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Any special scientific experiment that has been carried out may also be mentioned; and also, if the method suggested by the President to open 5 acres in each taluk has been adopted to demonstrate advantage of cultivation by the department to the ryot.

President.—Nothing.

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—What is the rate of the return under the best system of paddy cultivation; i. e., for one *para* of paddy how much do we get back?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Fifteen *paras*.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—Whether the department has any idea of starting a magazine.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Once we published one. We have a proposal to start a magazine.

Motions Nos. 6—9.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 600 for Cattle breeding by one rupee.*

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 5,025 for "Cocoanut Station, (b) other charges" by Rs. 8,500.*

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 5,025 for "7—Cocoanut Station, (b) other charges" by Rs. 3,525*

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 6,091 for Cocoanut Station by Rs. 3,392.*

President.—No. (6) Mr. K. T. Mathew—absent.
,, (7) Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja—absent.
,, (8) Mr. C. A. Ouseph—absent.
,, (9) Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I withdraw.

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Motion No. 10.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 6,091 for Cocoanut Station.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sir, I have tabled this motion, and I have given my reason at the back of the cut motion. I want the Hon'ble Member to explain to the the Council experiments carried out in the current year. I want also to call the attention of the Council to the fact that every year an expenditure of Rs. 6,091 we see in the budget and an income of Rs. 2,000. I want to obtain some explanatory information on this point.

President.—It is not at present self-supporting. In all plantations it is so.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—We have 600 bearing trees.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What is the income that we derive from these trees ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—About 2,000 cocoanuts. They are all old trees.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—There is Rs. 5,025 provided for other items. May I know what they are ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—In my opening speech I have given the details.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I would like to know whether the Member has employed depressed classes people in his department. Are there any of the employees in that farm belonging to the depressed classes ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—But they won't be there for 9 months. They will clear off when the harvest season comes.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I would like one or two men to be employed there.

President.—Suppose you pay them Rs. 15 a month, will they remain ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—I shall ask them.

President.—He has got watchers and other people. What will these Pulayas get, if they are employed as such ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.— Rs. 9.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—I do not know whether they will come for Rs. 9. I am sure, if they are paid Rs. 15, any number of them will come.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—You will kindly make a note of this. At least appoint two men and give them Rs. 15 each. They will do much more work than any other people. For ordinary purposes employ people from the depressed classes. They will take the spade and do all that is necessary.

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Mr. I. Raman Menon.—It is impossible unless we pay them well.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What do you pay them at the Central Farm?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Rs. 9. Our wages are much lower.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Unless you pay Rs. 15 they will be starving.

Motion No. 11.

Mr. K. Sankaran Nambudiri.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 99,590 for Agriculture by Rs. 8,748.*

President.—Mr. Sankaran Nambudiri is absent. The next motion stands in the name of Mr. Chakko.

Motion No. 12.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 7,236 for "C—contribution to Village Panchayats—Establishment" by one rupee.*

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.— Sir, I beg to move to reduce the allotment of Rs. 7,326 for "C—Contribution to Village Panchayats—Establishment" by Re. 1.

This motion is intended to press the necessity for separating the Agricultural Department from the Panchayat Department and placing the Panchayats under a separate head. We had been pressing upon the Government that the Panchayats are the units of self-government, the Panchayats are the most important factors in the matter of rural reconstruction, etc., before this House, and Government has not yet felt the necessity for separating the Panchayats from Agriculture and placing them under a separate head.

President.—Has this question come up for consideration in the Special Finance Committee?

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—We are recommending separation.

President.—That is alright.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—We find that the Agricultural Superintendent who has got a large amount of work of his own department generally finds it very hard to manage the Panchayats properly. The Mycologist and the Entomologist are sent to inspect the Panchayat roads, and chemical assistants are sent to investigate petitions sent by Panchayatdars, etc. (*Laughter*). There is no necessity for laughing over it. These are all facts. This entomological inspection of Panchayats and chemical enquiries into petitions must be put a stop to (*Laughter*) and this Agricultural Department, which is now converted to some-

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thing like a Miscellaneous Department including Agriculture, Panchayats, Veterinary and what not, of course, justly finds it difficult to pay proper attention to all these matters, and we cannot blame the head for not being able to discharge all these duties as expected by this House. Therefore, I move this motion for the consideration of this House.

President.—Has the opinion of the members been unanimous about this separation ?

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—I think it is unanimous.

President.—I think separation will be useful. The whole thing will be satisfactory.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—These Panchayats have got various duties—executive as well as other duties.

President.—There is no use finding ault with him in his work. In view of his multifarious duties he will really find it difficult. Was it not your experience that you found your work somewhat exacting ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—I have plenty of work.

President.—Apart from that, did you not find it exacting ?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—He may not like to say that.

President.—One is justified in saying that his work is exacting or not. I may say that my work is very exacting. Why can't I say that? The Legislative Council work is very exacting.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—A considerable portion of the budget allotment lapsed in the year.

President.—You see he has to prepare the programme sufficiently early. At the end of the year he gets requisitions from the Panchayats, and he finds it very difficult to carry the work through. I have been feeling that, if Mr. Raman Menon is convinced that full justice to Panchayat work is not done, he is at perfect liberty to say that. I am sure that it is no fault of his. So, if your Special Finance Committee is making that recommendation, I think the Government can find its way to give effect to the recommendation.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—If the Government is accepting it, I shall withdraw.

President.—What I want to say is, if the Special Finance Committee is making the recommendation, the Government will find its way of accepting it.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—We want to strengthen the hands of the Government by dividing the House upon the point. If the] Finance Committee is recommending, our hands will be strengthened still more.

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Dr. A. R. Menon.—Will the opinion of the Special Finance Committee have some weight with the Government?

President.—It should have some weight.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Day before yesterday, I purposely avoided referring to the business of the Special Finance Committee; otherwise, I would have been able to present a stronger case and show where the unanimous opinion of the Special Finance Committee has been flouted. I shall, day after to-morrow, refer to some facts where their unanimous opinion has been set aside. That is why I asked this question.

President.—Goverment are not aware of any other opinion of the Special Finance Committee than the interim report relating to the Forest and the Tramway.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.— On the assurance given by the Government, I withdraw.

Motions Nos. 13, 14 and 15.

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 7,236 for "(a) Establishment" by one rupee.*

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,000 for item No. 423 - for opening a road for Pulayas (Appendix A, p. 13).*

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,500 for item No. 424—opening a road for Valans (Appendix A, p. 13).*

President.—No. 13, Mr. Chummar.

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—That motion was also for the same purpose; that is to say, for the separation of the Panchayat Department. So I do not move it.

President.—Motion Nos. 14 and 15, Mr. Ouseph—absent.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Items 423 and 424. Here it is written, "Road for Pulayas, Road for Valans". It would appear that one road is for the Pulayas alone and another for the Valans alone.

Mr. O. R. Chummar.— Those distinctions may be dropped.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.— Those two roads are in two different places. One is in Cheranallur. That is for Valans; that is to say, a road opened at the instance of the Valans.

President.—Then, you could have said "for Valans and others".

Mr. M. K. Raman.—As it is, it would appear that we are constructing one road for the Valans, another for Pulayas, a third for Nayars and so on. We have not got separate roads for separate communities. It may be named as a public road.

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President.—"Opening a public road" is quite enough. Avoid all these objectionable expressions. (*Hear, hear.*)

Motion No. 16.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.— *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 71,791 for "C— Contribution to Village Panchayats—communications", by Re. 1.*

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—I have tabled this motion to draw the attention of the Government to the answer supplied to Question No. 191 of the budget session, 1101, as to the length of the roads, either Panchayat or P. W. D., in the Vadakkancheri Constituency. There, against each village, the length of road has been given—that is in reference to villages Kandanasseri, Kanippayyur, Eyyal, Cheranallur, Tayyur, Minalur and Kilalur. And I have asked in a subsequent session also as to what has been done with regard to the projected roads in Kandanasseri, and the answer was it was under consideration. I do not know whether that consideration has taken any shape now. It appears that *kychits* have been taken from the tenants to give up their lands without any land value.

President.—Has any provision been made for the road in the budget?

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—No provision has been made in regard to these 4 villages.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The whole situation of those 4 villages was placed before this Council last year. These roads are situated by the side of rich paddy lands, and there is very great difficulty to acquire lands for the roads.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—That is all the more reason, because paddy has to be taken to the market.

President.—His point is that a large amount will have to be spent for bringing it into existence. Roads are necessary. Nobody will deny it.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—In the Talappaili Taluk in the Varavur Panchayat, there is practically no road, and no paddy can arrive from there, and paddy will have to be taken upon bullocks' back.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—This year the road to the western side of the bridge is being constructed.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—The difficulty is this. The department finds it difficult or rather reluctant to grant large sums of money for the construction of roads. With 200 or 300 rupees we will be able to do nothing. So, that amount lapses. That is why I impressed upon the Government the necessity for placing the Panchayat under a separate head.

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President.—If the question is one of contribution, Government contributes year by year a lakh of rupees. Each year i increases the allotment.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—But large sums lapse.

President.—Lapsing should not be allowed. I am against that. Lapsing is not a satisfactory feature.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur—Perhaps now, on account of his manifold duties, the Superintendent is not able to attend to this. That is one of the excuses brought forward. Works to be done in a particular year often take 2 or 3 years. Such difficulties often arise.

President.—One thing must be borne in mind. No amount should be allowed to lapse.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—Why not make this amount non-lapsable, and you go on with the work taken in hand with the next year's contribution?

President.—There is another difficulty. It is not only a question of lapsing, but there is also the question of transfer. In many cases it is found convenient to divert a fund allowed for a specific purpose to meet another work. In that way, transfer of allotment is applied for, and it does more mischief than lapsing.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Works taken up at the end of the year cannot conveniently be distributed.

President.—Having regard to your experience regarding the working of the Panchayats, do large amounts lapse?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Not a very large amount.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—On the average only 75 per cent of the allotment is spent.

President.—The question is whether the amount allotted for a particular year is not utilised completely, and whether it is allowed to lapse.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—It is utilised to some extent.

President.—You do not catch my point. You are given Rs 50,000 for your department. Have you utilised all that 50,000 for your department without allowing any pie to go back to the Government treasury?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Not the whole amount.

President.—Is it a considerable amount?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Not very much.

President.—Can you say whether 10 per cent lapses?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Yes.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—One serious difficulty is that sometimes the work cannot be completed with the amount allotted.

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President.—But you should not leave the work undone. Whatever may be the amount given to you, it must be utilised. That should be the attitude of the Panchayats. So far as the Superintendent is concerned, you must insist on all the amount provided being utilised in the year, and not allow a pie to go back to the Government.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—The actuals of 1101 are here. 87,000 was the actual expenditure, and to the best of my recollection, the budget allotment was a lakh and 10,000.

Mr I. Raman Menon.—We have paid 20,000 from the current year's allotment.

President.—If, out of a lakh of rupees, you utilised only 80,000 in the year, 20,000 goes away.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—But what he means to say is a lakh of rupees worth of work was done, but only 80,000 was paid.

President.—That is not relevant.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—Providing funds piecemeal is another difficulty. Suppose there is a work of about Rs. 3,000. Only 200 or 300 rupees will be provided, and it will not be utilised properly, because the work done in the first year will be spoiled in the after years. Whenever you take up a work, you should provide sufficent allotment for that work to be finished in that year itself.

President.—Then there will be the charge of undue preference. You have got a certain work which requires 200 rupees. With that amount you may perhaps be able to complete a dozen works in other places. If that 200 is allotted, then, you will say Government has got a particular fascination for a particular Village, and we are neglected. Why not we equally distribute the grant? I do not think a portion of the work done in a particular year will be useless altogether. You can continue that work. Works of very large expenditure we may not be able to finish in one year. So we spread the amount over a number of years. I cannot agree with you in the view that full grant should be provided for in one year.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—I withdraw my motion.

President.—But Mr. Kochunni Menon, how were you able to get through all the motions on Saturday? Were you adopting a different policy?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—There was not much talk from the Chair as you are now doing. That was the reason. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. M. K. Raman.—But we know we are getting a lot of information.

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Dr. A. R. Menon.—We had come to some sort of agreement between ourselves, and so without much discussion, we were able to get through a number of motions.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—You know the difficulties of the administration. Our Deputy President knows nothing of the difficulties. He has nothing to gain by talking. You feel the difficulties in the office, and your head is full of it and it is coming out. That is very natural in your case, because you are full of it. You cannot but do it.

President.—If there is a complaint that I am talking too much, I shall put a stop to my speech. (*Laughter*) This is not the first time that I hear this. But I cannot resist talking.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That is because you are the Diwan of Cochin.

President.—That is not the first time the charge is hurled against me that the President is talking too much from the Chair. But sometimes I have to do it.

Motions Nos. 17—18.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 71,191 for "Establishment," etc, by one rupee.*

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 52,957 for "(h) Water supply" by one Rupee.*

President. Then, No. 17, Mr. Mathew is absent. No. 18, Mr. Eachara Menon.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Sir, I have tabled this cut to bring to the notice of the Government the difficulties felt by a large number of poor people in Moongalmada. During the time of Sir Vijayaraghavachari, there was a proposal to shift the village to a higher level, and he ordered the construction of a well there. The well was constructed, but the village remained where it was. I do not know how that idea was given up afterwards. There is no public well there, and the only well there, belongs to a private gentleman, and he objects to depressed classes making use of it.

President.—In the Standing Finance Committee you referred to some well.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—That is the Vannamada well, Sir. Those people have no water to drink. It is essential that they should be given a well.

With regard to Vannamada, an amount of Rs. 500 was set part for the water-pandal well. During the hotter months, here will be no water in it, and they find it very difficult. There is another well there, close by, and it is a very dirty one. When I went there, I saw the people using that muddy water, and it is in connection with that, that I called the attention of the

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Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats, when he stated that he had called for estimates. But, unfortunately, estimates were called for the water-pandal well. I request the Government to ask the Superintendent of Panchayats to see whether that well could not be repaired.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The Member for Chittur, on the last occasion, referred to the well at Vannamada, and Rs. 500 was provided for deepening it and re-lining and putting it in order. The early lining has been done, and the well has to be deepened, as the other well is of more pressing necessity. The allotment may be transferred for repairing the other well, and the Vannamada well may be left as it is.

President.—Let it be so done.

Then, cut motion No. 19, Mr. A. Eachara Menon.

Motion No. 19.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—*To reauce the allotmnt of Rs. 10,554 for "Grants-in-aid to Ayurvedic Dispensaries."*

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—This cut is to bring to the notice of the Government the necessity for opening more Ayurvedic Vaidyasalas. Sir, when I brought to the notice of this House, during our first budget meeting, the abolition of the Ayurvedic Dispensary at Tattamangalam with scant courtesy and the necessity to restore it, the Superintendent of Agriculture was made to say that a comprehensive scheme for the propagation of Ayurveda was under preparation. The Superintendent of Agriculture was under labour for more than two years now, and even the symptoms of what he will bring forth are not in evidence. That the dispensary in Tattamangalam was doing beautifully well was in the report. It lacks only in one circumstance, that it was not under the control of the Superintendent of Panchayats. It was opened under the auspices of no less a person than the Agent to the Governor-General. This fact at least should have weighed with the Government to give a small grant to the institution, seeing that an opinion of Lady Goschen has been made much off to spend about 78 thousand rupees of public money for the Girls' High School, which is ashamed to show its face to the public who pass by. Apart from that, is this the way, Sir, in which you propose to show your sympathy in resuscitating Ayurveda? Why this indifference, Sir? His Highness is highly in favour of it. The Royal Family is in favour of it. The personnel of the executive is in favour of it. His Highness' loyal subjects clamour for it. If anything is against it, it is only the official garb of the executive. Even though the Government said that the location of the dispensary at Tattamangalam would be considered when the scheme has been ready,

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they are opening dispensaries elsewhere before the scheme. Is it the fear of the Superintendent of Panchayats that the Ayurvedic Dispensaries under any other control would not work well, that he has not taken the case of Tattamangalam? If so, let us have one under his management. Sir, do not put it off, because my pleading is not forcible. It is your duty to supply medical aid to His Highness' subjects. My duty ends with calling your attention to the same. The Superintendent said to a question from you that he was opening two or three dispensaries every year. Let one, this year, be at Tattamangalam. You have given Tattamangalam a rural dispensary. Give that to Nalleppalli, the nearest inhabited place of it which is 3 miles from Chittur Hospital, or Ozhalapathy, which is about 7 miles away When Kozhinjampara. Let the name be appropriate to the place. from it is found that there are rural places six and seven miles away from a dispensary without being supplied with one, I cannot in all conscience demand one for Tattamangalam, a part of the Municipality only, three miles distant from its remotest boundary to the Chittur Hospital. May I inquire in this connection Sir, who all were consulted in fixing the places? The Tahsildar would have been the proper person to be consulted. That is by the way. Sir, you will find in this matter that the Government has shown callous indifference to the request of the people, in spite of repeated representations. I could challenge the Superintendent of Panchayats to show me one dispensary under him, which was so well-managed, and which was so very useful to the public, as that of Tattamangalam. I would think that he took a kindlier view this time. We press this cut simply to show that the sympathy towards the Central Ayurvedic Institute, the Government have been evincing, is not sufficient, and that it may act as a whip for the Government to be a little more generous towards the representations made in this House.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Sir, I rise to second this motion, and in doing so, I wish to call the attention of this House to a resolution brought forward here by the Member for Kunnamkulam on the 4th February 1926. Before that date, we were calling the attention of the Council to the desirability of establishing a Central Ayurvedic Hospital. In that connection the following observations were made in this House, and I request the House to forgive me, if I quote a few sentences which I used on that day also. During the discussion the question arose why the Tattamangalam Dispensary was recommended to be abolished, and the answer was Rs. 8,000 worth of medicine was supplied to it, and no money was collected from the patients.

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"Mr. President, the stage has passed when any useful purpose would be served by discussing the merits and demerits of the respective systems of medicine. So far as we can gather from the discussion of yesterday, both systems have their relative merits and demerits. But a combination of these two will go a long way in solving the difficult problem of medical relie f The Allopathic system involves very great expenditure. The question is whether the Ayurvedic or the Allopathic system is more economical. Considering the importance of this question, I took infinite pains, and in consultation with the practitioners of both the Ayurvedic and Allopathic systems, I had prepared and submitted a Bill for introduction into this Council. But I regret that, owing to causes over which I have no control, the Bill has not yet been sanctioned, nor published in the Gazette, on the ground that there is a possibility that it may affect the revenues of the State. But, at the same time, the Diwan was pleased to sanction and to publish in the Gazette Mr. Salem's Old Age Pensions Bill, involving an expenditure of something like 5 or 6 lakhs of rupees. My Bill does not propose to deprive any Government officer of his salary. Hence those who are interested in this matter may go to their beds and sleep in peace. Spending over two and a half lakhs of rupees and not recovering a pie does not disturb the equanimity of the Chief Medical Officer, because the hospitals are Allopathic, whiie spending the paltry sum of a thousand rupess and not recovering anything from the patients become a grave crime, when it is an Ayurvedic Dispensary. Well, Sir, such is the mentality of the Chief Medical Officer, and now, you can see why he should have nothing to do with the control of Ayurvedic institutions. The truth of the matter is that, if the Ayurvedic system is properly worked under State patronage, the Allopathic system is bound to suffer.

"It is only fair to add that the Government have not extended the same help and sympathy to this indigenous system of medicine, which they have done to the Allopathic system. While they are ready to pour out the public funds indiscriminately upon the latter, they have been very miserly in their financial support to the former. If this niggardliness is due to lack of funds, a Retrenchment Committee will be able to suggest how a reduction of nearly a lakh of rupees could be effected in the present expenditure on the Allopathic system."

The truth of the matter is that, if the Ayurvedic system is made to work properly, the Allopathic system is bound to suffer. That observation which I have made has not come true, because the State goes out of its way in spite of the unanimous

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recommendation of the Special Finance Committee without a moment's hesitation to spend Rs. 1,70,000 for the construction of the paying ward, and the present budget was prepared in such a fashion that we were led to believe the amount that is to be spent was only Rs. 40,000. This House is under great obligation to the Chief Engineer for letting the cat out of the bag at the moment when he said that the expenditure is not Rs. 40,000 but Rs. 1,70,000. This House ought to be thankful to him especially, for we have saved Rs. 1,70,000 the day before yesterday, and I have no doubt that this might have caused some irritation, which might exist for a day or two, but the Government will be thankful to the opposition party for having protected the State from spending such a large amount of money. I submit that the Government ought to spend at least Rs. 25,000 next year to develop this Ayurvedic system of medicine. I do not profess that I am in a position to discuss about the merits of the system of which I know not, and, unless one is qualified to give remarks, none has a right to say whether this system is superior to the other system or the other is superior to this. The fact of the matter, as is invariably the case, is that in all systems there is good and bad, and the wise will select what is good in each. And I want the Government to take what is best in each and not to confine its attention only to one branch and spend in such a free-handed manner as it has been doing.

Sir, I do not wish to say anything more on this subject, but cannot sit without calling the attention of the Government to the view that, if we want these institutions to thrive, unless you place them under local agencies, they will never thrive. The other day, during the budget discussion, a proposal was made that rural dispensaries, both Allopathic and Ayurvedic, may be placed under Taluk Boards. Immediately, the department opposed such a method. If you cannot trust us, and give us powers to manage these petty dispensaries, I don't know how you could have the confidence to invite us to come here and discuss all State affairs and discuss budgets. Certainly, if we are competent to do this work, and I think we have discharged the work as we possibly could, under the circumstances is it proper, is it right to pronounce that we are incompetent to manage dispensaries? Unless you resolve and give us also some hand in it, I submit,—and I protest against the attitude of the Government—we will see in a day or two whether we are competent to sit in this House or not.

President.—Is there any one else to speak?

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Dr. A. G. Menon.—Only after we hear the Government view.

President.—The point is more Ayurvedic Dispensaries should be opened. The Government recognise that these Ayurvedic Dispensaries are useful, but the only complaint is that more encouragement is not given.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—If the Government consider that these Ayurvedic Dispensaries are useful institutions, the Government would not have abolished the Ayurvedic Dispensary at Tattamangalam.

President.—How many Ayurvedic Dispensaries we have in the State?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.— Thirteen.

President.—What is the policy you suggest?

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—I will make one suggestion. There should be a dispensary in each Panchayat, either Allopathic or Ayurvedic.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Ayurvedic Dispensary costs Rs. 50 a month, and my Hon'ble friend (the Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats) will bear out the fact.

President.—In this Rs. 50, what all are included?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Cost of medicines, rent, the salary, etc. Everything is included, and in the case of rural dispensaries the expenses are the same.

President.—So the cost is more or less the same.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—In this connection, I beg to say I am entirely in favour of the establishment of more Ayurvedic Dispensaries. Though, the Ayurvedic system is very good in its way, it has its own limitations. It can only minister to diseases generally of the medical side. In the domain of surgery and in the field of obstetrics, it is an admitted fact that the Ayurvedic system can not do anything. (*Hear, hear.*) So that, of the whole list of diseases affecting the population, perhaps 30% of it will be benefitted by Ayurvedic treatments. Further, I doubt whether the Government is prepared to support two systems of medicines side by side in the same place. Is it financially possible or sound? These rural dispensaries were opened at the special request of the people of the locality. The Hon'ble Member of Kunnankulam says that he wants some dispensaries in his constituency. People of the locality of Velur could not take cases of difficult labour to Vadakkan heri which is 7 or 8 miles away. The Hon'ble Member for Palghautti preferred an Allopathic Dispensary to an Ayurvedic dispensary in Kumbalanghi. So the people themselves realise that the Ayurvedic system of treatment alone could not satisfy their needs, and that it has its own limitations.

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President.—The point is whether we can have rural dispensaries and Ayurvedic dispensaries side by side.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I think Government cannot have both side by side in the same locality. I support the principles stated.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—We do not know the position of the Government.

President.—We cannot open Ayurvedic and Allopathic Dispensaries at the same place. Regarding the amount of expenditure, it is more or less the same, and so it depends upon the wish of the people.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I am glad you understand the question of the needs of the people, and the Government's duty is to comply with the needs of the people. We have heard it eloquently from the lips of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer that, as regards the Ayurvedic treatment, about 30 per cent of the diseases can be treated. And 70 per cent must be treated in rural dispensaries by the Allopathic system and also the special cases of surgery and child birth. People also want surgery done to them. For that, Ayurvedic doctors should be properly trained in that line.

We have 10 lakhs of people and if you give a lakh of rupees more for this special needs, their needs are satisfied. Rs. 50 to an Allopathic Dispensary and Rs. 50 to an Ayurvedic Dispensary will mean Rs. 100 a month for a Panchayat. As the Hon'ble Member stated, there are 80 Panchayats in the State. That means Rs. 80,000 more to the people and nothing more. And I ask whether the Government, now spending so much money in so many other departments for the sake of educating the people, for agricultural purposes, etc., have no funds to spend a lakh of rupees for the sick people of Cochin?

President.—There are 85 Panchayats in the whole State.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—There is still a better suggestion from the leader of our party. If you have a central rural dispensary with a properly trained doctor, and if there are 4 Ayurvedic Dispensaries at five miles to the north, five miles to the east, five miles to the south, and five miles to the west, and we divide the country into circles like that for medical relief, you will save a lot of these dispensaries, and the expenditure will, therefore, become less, and therefore, if you budget about Rs. 60,000, that would be ample for the purpose. Why should you grudge for the poor people this little money? I can see no justification on the part of the Government. They can spend liberally on motor cars, on roads or palaces, and they grudge to spend this 60 or 70 thousand or even a lakh to the poor people when they are

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sick. What do we ask? We have got 53 lakhs surplus. One lakh will go in this way, and perhaps the expenditure will become much less in the General Hospital. The General Hospital will not have so many cases coming here then. It is not a question of having patients. We must be ready to give them help. All their needs will be catered for, if we have a Central Rural Dispensary with a qualified doctor and Ayurvedic Dispensaries on all sides of it. For this purpose I don't think we will press this motion to a division upon the point that Government must accept the principle of opening a rural dispensary with a qualified doctor to give help to women in child birth, surgical cases, etc., and of having Ayurvedic Dispensaries all over the country. Because, they are indigenous institutions. They are suited to the genius of the people. As our friend, the Member for Vyttila, remarked, they prefer *kadukka* to the costly Epsom salt. If the genius of the people is like that, we must cater to their national bent of mind for indigenous stuff. I, therefore, strongly support this motion.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—I want only some points of information. If I understand aright, the Government's position seems to be that they cannot open Ayurvedic Dispensaries in the same place at the same time. May I know whether the Government is prepared to open Ayurvedic Dispensaries in places where there are no Allopathic Dispensaries?

President.—Not all at once.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—May I know whether they have a definite programme of extending the spread of the Ayurvedic system of treatment?

President.—We would gradually spread it. As regards places where they should be opened, it would be in accordance with urgency. How many Ayurvedic Dispensaries have you now got?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—We want practically in all the Panchayats.

President.—He wants to open dispensaries gradually. Not all in one year.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—What is the maximum time it would take for them to give dispensaries to all the Panchayats? I don't want the minimum time.

President.—It is not possible to give in the course of three years or five years.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—I just want to know whether they can do it within a reasonable time.

President.—What is your programme for these Ayurvedic Hospitals? How many do you propose to open in each year? This year you have opened seven.

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Mr. I. Raman Menon.—I have no regular programme.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—This is an experimental measure. We should see whether it is really successful. I don't know whether it will be received by the people, and whether it will work well. It depends upon the success with which this work is carried.

President.—The present is only an experimental stage. We cannot lay down a programme, unless we see the result of the experiment we are conducting.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—May I know whether they have any objection for the Homeopathy system?

President.—I don't know whether Government is going to support all these systems of medicine. There will be Unani.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Unani is Mussalman, and Ayurveda is Hindu. Homeopathy comes from Germany.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—One more question. I request information on one more point. Is the Government aware that the majority of the people, I mean all the people, excepting the educated classes, have complete faith in Ayurveda and more faith in the Ayurvedic system of treatment than in any other system?

President.—It is a matter of opinion. Why do you question?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—I just want to know what the opinion of the Government is?

President.—Government has not investigated the point.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—You are not aware. Then, take it from me, Sir, that the majority of the people are in favour of the Ayurvedic system.

President.—The discussion may be brought to a close.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—They like this system more than any other system.

President.—It is alright.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—There was a time when the great majority of the people were against English education.

The question of reducing the allotment of Rs. 10,554 for grants-in-aid to Ayurvedic Dispensaries by Re. 1 was put to vote and was lost.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—A poll, Sir.

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The House divided as follows.—

For

1 Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur
2 ,, A. Eachara Menon
3 ,, T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar
4 ,, E. Ikkanda Wariar
5 ,, C. A. Kunjunni Raja
6 ,, K. S. Rama Ayyar
7 ,, M. K. Raman
8 ,Dr. A. R. Menon
9 Mr. A. B. Salem

Against.

1 President
2 Mr. C. Achyuta Menon
3 Mr. K. Achyuta Menon
4 ,, I. E. Ambooken
5 Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon
6 ,, George Chakyamuri
7 ,, O. R. Chummar
8 ,, P. Damodara Menon
9 ,, K. Govinda Menon
10 ,, K. P. Karuppan
11 ,, T. K. Krishna Menon
12 ,, K. Krishna Pisharodi
13 ,, C. Matthai
14 ,, I. Raman Menon
15 ,, Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur
16 ,, V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar
17 ,, A. K. Vengu Ayyar
18 Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese

Neutral.

1 Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon
2 ,, M. Krishna Menon
3 P. Kunju Muhammad

Motion No. 20.

Mr. K. P. Karuppan. — *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,85,088 for "Contribution to Village Panchayats" by Rs. 100*

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കറുപ്പൻ. —പഞ്ചായത്തിൽ അധഃകൃതവർഗ്ഗത്തിൽ (Depressed Classes) നിന്നും കുറെ ആളുകൾക്കും കൂടി പ്രാതിനിധ്യം കിട്ടിയാൽ സമുദായത്തിനു വളരെ നന്നായിരിക്കും എന്നു ബോധിപ്പിക്കാനായിട്ടാണു ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം അയച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു്.

പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു്,— എന്തുമാതിരിയാണു ?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കറുപ്പൻ.— ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ നിയമപ്രകാരം മെമ്പർ സ്ഥാനം കിട്ടണമെങ്കിൽ വളരെ ശ്രമപ്രകാരം ഒടുക്കുന്നവർ ആയിരിക്കണമെന്നുണ്ടു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.— Depressed Classes-ം Backward Classes-ം വേണം.

പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു്.— Depressed Classess മാത്രമോ Backward Classes ം വേണോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കറുപ്പൻ. —രണ്ടുകൂട്ടരും. ഇവർക്കു എന്തെങ്കിലും കര ഉണ്ടായാൽ മതി; ഇവരും പഞ്ചായത്തു മെമ്പർ ആകാം എന്നു റെഗുലേഷനിൽ ഭേദഗതി വരുത്തിയാൽ അവർക്കു വലിയ ഉപകാരമായിരിക്കും.

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോർജ്ജു് ചാക്യാമുറി.—ഈ കാര്യത്തെ പറ്റി എനിക്കും സല്പം പറയാനുണ്ടു്. പഞ്ചായത്തു മെമ്പറിനു വളരെ ശ്രമപ്രകാരം യോഗ്യത ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കണമെന്നു വച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു് വളരെ കൃത്യതലാണു്. ലെജിസ്ലേറ്റീവു് കൌൺസിൽ വോട്ടർമാർക്കു തന്നെ ഒരു ശ്രമപ്രകാരമേ കരം യോഗ്യതവേണ്ടു. പഞ്ചായത്തു്, രാജ്യത്തിനു വളരെ ഗുണമുള്ളതാണു്. ജനങ്ങൾക്കു് അതിനോടു അടുത്തു പെരുമാറത്തക്കവണ്ണം

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കരം കുറഞ്ഞവക്കും ആകാമെന്നവയ്ക്കണം. നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തു മിക്ക കുടുംബവും ക്രൂട്ടുകുടുംബമായിട്ടാണു കഴിയുന്നതു. കുസ്ത്രാനികൾക്കാണെങ്കിൽ അച്ഛൻ ജീവിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നിടത്തോളം കാലം വസ്തുഭാഗമൊ അതുവഴി കരം യോഗ്യതയോ കിട്ടിയെന്നു വരികയില്ല. അതിനാൽ അതിനെ പരിഷ്കരിക്കണം.

President.—Your point is also to amend the Panchayat Regulation so as to reduce this tax qualification. Do you say that five rupees should be the tax paid?

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോജ്ജ് ചാക്യാമുറി.—എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായപ്രകാരം എന്തെങ്കിലും നികുതി കൊടുക്കുന്നവർക്കു പഞ്ചായത്തു മെമ്പർ സ്ഥാനത്തിനു അർഹതയുണ്ടാകണമെന്നാണു.

പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു.—എന്തെങ്കിലും ഒരു സംഖ്യ തീർച്ചപ്പെടുത്തണ്ടേ? അഞ്ചു രൂപാ ആക്കിയാലൊ?

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.—നോമിനേറ്റ് ചെയ്യുന്നവർക്കും നികുതി ദായകത്വം നോക്കാറുണ്ടൊ

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോജ്ജ് ചാകാമുറി.—ഉണ്ടു. നോമിനേറ്റ് ചെയ്യുന്ന കാര്യത്തിൽ കരം ഒടുക്കുന്നതു നോക്കാതിരുന്നാൽ തരക്കേടില്ല. അപ്പോൾ അധഃകൃതർക്കു കിട്ടുകയുംചെയ്യും. മറ്റുള്ളവർക്കു എന്തെങ്കിലും കരം മതിയെന്നു വെയ്ക്കുന്നതാണു നല്ലതു. അഞ്ചു രൂപാ വെച്ചാലും ഇപ്പോഴത്തേതിൽനിന്നും ഭേദമാകും.

President.—But could not a Bill be brought to amend the Panchayat Regulation?

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Sir, some of the works of the D. P. W. and of the Sanitary Department are handed over to the Panchayat Department. But at the same time, the allotment is also reduced. I will give a concrete example. Now, when the Cheerachiculam was worked by the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer, the allotment was more than Rs. 8,000. Then, it was damaged, and there was a reduction of more than Rs. 1,500. Now, it is entrusted to the Panchayats. The allotment there is only Rs. 500. You will see such things in all the works entrusted by the D. P. W. also. When a work from the D. P. W. or from any other department is entrusted to the Panchayat, the amount allotted is less than the amount which would have been allotted, if they were in the other departments.

President.—That is the reason why they transfer it to the Panchayat. A large amount was once spent. Probably they have to spend only a small amount.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—How can a work of Rs. 8,000 be done with Rs. 500?

President.—You have only to repair the parapet wall. That can be done by the Panchayats with a small amount.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—They are all damaged.

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Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Not the whole.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—There was a reduction of Rs. 1,500. At least that amount might have been allotted.

President.—It can be managed with Rs. 500.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—At least that amount could have been allotted.

The question of granting the total allotment of Rs.2,80,427 was put to the votes and was carried.

President.—Are there other motions to be discussed?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—There is one motion standing in our party's name on Co-operation. It will take some time. It would be better to postpone it to to-morrow.

Motions Nos. 21—26.

Mr. K. Sankaran Nambudiri.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,85,088 "for Contribution to VillagePanchayats", by Rs. 88.*

Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 3,15,200 under "Demand No. II" by Rs. 100.*

Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 3,15,200 under "Demand No. II" by Rs. 100.*

Mr. N. Padmanabha Menon.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 3,15,000 under "Demand No. II" by one rupee.*

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 2,80,427 under "Demand No. II" by one rupee.*

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 3,15,200 under "Demand No. II" by one rupee.*

The above motions lapsed under Rule 49 (2).

President.—We shall now rise.

The House adjourned at 5 p. m., to meet again at 11-30 a. m. the next day.

T. K. KRISHNA MENON,

Secretary to the Council.

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